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FRENCH FINANCING FOR MONO DAM

Lome LA NOUVELLE MARCHE in French 7 Feb 81 p 1

[Article: "Dam on the Mono River: Financing Agreement Between the CEB and France"]

[Excerpts] Yesterday afternoon in the offices of the Electricity Community of Benin (CEB), the signing of a financing agreement between France and the CEB was carried out by Barry Moussa Barque, member of the Political Bureau and minister of public works, mines, energy and hydraulic resources, and Barthélemy Ohouens, the Beninese minister of industry, mines, and energy, and on the other side, Bertrand Desmazieres, France's ambassador to Togo.

This agreement, which amounts to a total of 225 million CFA francs, involves France's participation in technical studies of the dam on the Mono River.

The assistance contributed to the French Republic to the Electricity Community of Benin will serve to partly finance technical studies for the integrated development of the Mono River valley, the smaller branch of the Mono River serving as a border for Togo and Benin.

The Mono River valley integrated development project's goal is to control the flow of the Mono River. It will permit the Togolese Republic and the People's Republic of Benin to better utilize the water resources of the Mono River for electricity production and for agricultural production.

The signing of this agreement comes within the framework of relations of cooperation the French Republic maintains with the member states of the Electricity Community of Benin.

9631

CSO: 4400

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

SA-SWAZILAND DEBT ROW--Swaziland's Acting Attorney General, Mr. A. Nithianandan was expected back in his Chambers in Mbabane this morning after a brief visit to Johannesburg where he briefed counsel for the Swaziland government in the civil matter in which a South African company is claiming E82,128. Apart from discussing the matter with counsel, Mr. Nithianandan will file all the necessary papers. He left Mbabane on Tuesday. The Rand Supreme Court last week authorised the sheriff there to attach Swaziland assets in South Africa. The terms of the order were that the sheriff attach all the right, title and interest of the Kingdom of Swaziland in and to the common revenue pool existing between South Africa, Botswana and Lesotho. These funds amount to many millions. The money is for the goods allegedly purchased and delivered to the Ministry of Agriculture in Mbabane last year. The company has also claimed that despite numerous demands made by it to duly authorised officials for payment of the amount, Swaziland had failed to pay. [Text] [Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 5 Mar 81 p 1]

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR DENIES WIDESPREAD HUNGER--On Tuesday the Angolan ambassador to France, Luis d'Almeida, denied "the fanciful assertions according to which half a million people are dying of hunger in Angola." In a statement for the record made public in Paris, d'Almeida maintained that "in Angola nobody is dying of hunger, even in the south where our people are putting up with continual bombings and land attacks by the racist South African army." "These fanciful assertions originate, it seems, from information given by certain ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) food experts. Angola's ambassador in France most categorically denies such allegations," the statement emphasizes. "He calls the ICRC's attention to the consequences that this kind of smear campaign, a campaign carried out by certain of its representatives in the country (Angola) who confuse the humanitarian activity to which they are assigned with their political and ideological leanings, can have on relations with Angola." In conclusion, the ambassador "is astonished that certain special correspondents from Paris daily newspapers think they can make value judgments about the Angolan situation by only remaining a week and only in the city of Luanda." [Text] [Lome LA NOUVELLE MARCHE in French 5 Feb 81 p 8] 9631

REACTIVATION OF GROUNDED MIGS--Several dozen technicians and ground engineers have arrived at Lubango in the south of Angola to get a squadron of MiG's airborne for they have been grounded too long for lack of maintenance and engineers. [Text] [Item from column: "The People Hear This."] [Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English 28 Feb 81 p 17]

CSO: 4420

GOVERNMENT ADVISED TO PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY IN GOLD SECTOR

Accra THE LEGON OBSERVER in English 30 Jan 81 pp 13, 14

[Text]

The international seminar on Ghana's gold resources is over, and from all accounts, it was a great success. Whether an international seminar is the best way to attract investors into a country is entirely beside the point. What that seminar has certainly achieved is to have drawn the attention of investors the world over to the existence of huge gold deposits in this country. Again, whether this is what is really needed to be done is highly debatable. It seems to have escaped the attention of the Government and the planners of the seminar that Ghana was once called the Gold Coast and that that name was conferred on that stretch of West African coast because of the abundance of gold the first Europeans who began to operate there from the year 1471 found. Secondly, it seems also to have been forgotten that long before the appearance of the Europeans on the shores of Ghana, gold was in fact being mined by our ancestors and was being exported northwards into the western Sudan and across the Sahara into the Barbary states and thence into the Muslim and Christian worlds; and that what the presence of the Europeans did was to reverse the flow of gold exports from the northern-Sahara channels into the southern-trans-Atlantic ones.

But it should be emphasized that throughout those years, from the pre-European times, during the European times till as late as the 1870's and 1880's, the mining of this gold was done entirely by Ghanaians. It was only with the establishment of British rule in Ghana during the last decade of the nineteenth century that Ghanaians were completely eliminated from the gold mining industry, which then became the exclusive preserve of expatriate mining companies until the time of independence. Since independence, what has been frustrating the gold mining operations is surely not knowledge of the existence of gold deposits in

the country but rather the lack of the necessary inputs such as capital, machinery, transport and technical expertise to carry on the industry. This was, surely, one of the reasons why the State Mining Corporation was set up in the 1950's and Lonhro was allowed to take over the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation in the mid-sixties. The impression being created that this gold mining business is a completely new discovery is therefore unfortunate and totally wrong.

The question one expected the present government to have raised then is why both Lonhro and the State Mines Corporation have failed to increase gold output and not to have organised a seminar to publicise what is already known, and known only too well. Anyway, the seminar has been held and as indicated already, if it has not succeeded in doing anything, it has certainly generated confidence in the Government and in international circles and has created great anxiety and enthusiasm in governmental circles about the urgency of seeing to it that these gold resources are expeditiously and fully exploited. But it is precisely here that one would like to sound a note of caution. It was out of such anxiety and enthusiasm that a previous government of this country signed the Valco Agreement which has proved so inimical to the interests of this country, and we would like to plead that in their negotiations with potential investors, the present Government should be extremely careful not to get the gold mining industry moving at the expense of the interests of Ghanaians.

Already, all sorts of tax concessions and other privileges have been proposed. We should be extremely careful that we do not create another Valco situation. Secondly, in their negotiations we would like to urge that the Government should insist on the setting up of fully integrated industries, that is, not just the mining but also the processing of gold which would enable us to export fully-processed products rather than raw materials. This latter suggestion equally goes for the oil industries too that may be set up. Properly handled, the export of these gold and other mineral deposits will go a long way to solving the chronic economic problems with which we are confronted as well as diversifying the economy of the country. We, therefore, sincerely plead with the Government that all steps should be taken to avoid the Valco experience and to arrive at arrangements which will prove beneficial not only to investors but also to the people of this country.

BRIEFS

POWER TRANSFORMER BLASTED--Maseru--A succession of explosions rocked the Lesotho capital early yesterday morning, damaging a transformer in a suburb but causing no injury, Radio Lesotho has announced. The radio said nine home-made explosive devices had been placed at a sub-station in a Maseru suburb on the banks of the Caledon River border with South Africa. One of the devices failed to explode, while the others caused only slight damage to one of the transformers at the sub-station, which supplied the entire country with electricity. The explosions took place between 12,45 am and 4,30 am. The police were investigating and no arrests had been made so far. Vehicles bringing workers into Maseru were stopped and searched by Lesotho army members after the explosions. A Lesotho police spokesman said the incident was being investigated and an official statement would be released later. A "mysterious" bomb blast occurred last month at the home of a Maseru lawyer, Mr Khalaki Sello. A spokesman for the Electricity Supply Commission said in Johannesburg yesterday the sub-station in Maseru did not belong to Escom, reports Ken Macleod. He pointed out that although South Africa sold electricity to Lesotho, it belonged to that country once it crossed the border and had nothing to do with South Africa thereafter. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 12 Mar 81 p 5]

CSO: 4420

ASSEMBLY UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES NEW TRADE LAW

Victoria NATION in English 4 Mar 81 pp 1, 2

[Article by Rene Morel]

[Text] A new trade law which will make sure that the country has constant supplies of imported goods by eliminating chaos in the trade business and which will help the government in effectively controlling the prices of these goods, was approved unanimously yesterday morning by the People's Assembly.

The Minister for Planning and Development, Dr. Maxime Ferrari, explained the purpose of the Trade Licences Bill 1981 to members of the People's Assembly after proposing a few amendments to the original.

The new trade law will see to it that trade licences are granted only to those importers who are serious in the business. In the process of granting import licences it is hoped that the number of importers in the country, standing at present at about 800, will be controlled.

Minister Ferrari said the new law carried conditions obliging a licence applicant to state what he intended to import. The successful applicant must only import the goods specified in the licence and he will have to assure their constant supplies in the country because "we think an importer has a duty to import the goods for which he has been licensed," the Minister pointed out. He then cited many examples of importers not stocking spare parts for machineries they put on sale, thereby causing the buyer to pay exorbitant prices to import the spares by air if he does not want to throw away the piece of machinery.

A wholesaler will be obliged to sell the goods to any retailer and he will be told with what percentage mark-up the goods are to be sold. This, it is hoped, will effectively control the prices of goods and put a stop to high profiteering. The new law will also see to it that all imported goods are subjected to price control regulations.

"Too often in the past, when price control is applied on certain commodities, the prices on other uncontrolled commodities go up," Dr. Ferrari told the Assembly.

The retailers whose licence will oblige them to sell certain basic commodities such as rice, sugar and salt will also have to adhere to controlled prices.

Failure on the part of the importers, wholesalers and retailers to abide by the conditions set, carries the risk of having their licences revoked.

Dr. Ferrari also told the Assembly that the new law will help Government in its fight to lower the cost of living.

The bill received the President's assent yesterday afternoon and is now law.

CSO: 4420

SPPF DELEGATION VISITS MARIANNE AND FELICITE

Victoria NATION in English 26 Feb 81 pp 1, 2

[Article by Denis Rose]

[Text]

THE granitic islands of Marianne and Félicité, satellites of La Digue, were last Thursday the hosts of a Seychelles People's Progressive Front (SPPF) delegation, led by the Secretary General and Minister for Administration and Political Organisation Mr Guy Simon.

Other members of the delegation were the chairman of the SPPF-affiliated National Workers' Union, Mr. Olivier Charles, the chairman of the People's Assembly, Mr. John Renaud, the member of the People's Assembly for La Digue, Mr. Alain St. Ange.

Also present were the chairman of the La Digue SPPF branch, Mr. Chérubin Rade-gonde, branch secretary Mrs. Jena Louise, treasurer Mrs. Théodora Rade-gonde, several committee members and co-ordinator Mrs Lydia Pillay.

The visit, to assess the workers' situation on the two privately-owned islands, was organised on the initiative of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front.

Minister Simon had a meeting with the workers in the presence of Mr. Harry Choppy, one of the directors of Marianne. Minister Simon stressed the need to develop fully all the islands of the Republic so as to enable them to play their role effectively in the country's development and economy.

"All islands of the Republic whether private or belonging to the state must be developed fully for the benefit of the whole population," he said.

The SPPF Secretary General then stressed the importance of workers in our society and said that no worker should consider himself inte-

rior to others simply because he is working on outer or inner islands.

"In our society, all workers and all jobs are important and everybody should give the best of himself for full productivity," he said, adding that the Front had established various structures to help improve conditions of workers.

The Secretary General was followed by the NWU's chairman who spoke of mutual understanding between workers and employers in order to achieve progress.

Mr. Charles said that the role of the National Workers' Union was to protect and promote the interest of all workers and added that the NWU's new constitution laid down the necessary structures to enable it to carry out its task effectively.

The meeting was followed by frank discussions among the workers, Mr. Choppy and the SPPF delegation, with the most common question concerning salaries and the number of hours one should work. But it was amazing to hear that half of the workers did not know what their salaries were!

Minister Binon also visited the island's shop and some of the workers' houses while nurses who had travelled across examined those who were sick.

Marianne Island is 1.6 km long and the main economic activity is copra processing. The island produces 5 to 6 tonnes of copra per year.

There is a population of 17 workers, including five women, as well as five children below school age.

Since the island is rocky, there is very little flat land and not much effort is being made to exploit the flat land for maximum crop.

In the afternoon Minister Binon and his delegation visited Félicité and again a meeting was held with workers of the island and both the Secretary General and Mr. Olivier Charles had the same message for them.

There the meeting was held in the presence of the island's manager Mr. Philippe Bouche,reau.

Félicité is 2.4 km long and the main economic activity there too is copra processing. There are 18 workers of which 6 are women.

NRDC TO WORK CLOSELY WITH GOVERNMENT RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Victoria NATION in English 4 Mar 81 p 2

[Article by Ronnie Jumeau]

[Text]

THE National Research and Development Council (NRDC), inaugurated last month has announced that it will work closely with the Research and Development Department of the Ministry of Planning and Development. Details of some of the research the Council will be involved in have also been outlined in a press communiqué.

The Government research department is already constructing the nucleus of a series of laboratories at Pointe Larue, together with workshops and test facilities, which will allow experimental work on a variety of projects. Some of these, such as salt production and solar panels, have already started.

The first laboratory to be a metrology one to provide the necessary scientific support in implementing the Weights and Measures Act scheduled to come into force in April this year.

This law will ensure the proper maintenance of weight, length and volume measures so as to protect the public in their dealings with merchants and factories. All weights, balances and measures used for commercial transactions will be required to bear the seal of the Weights and Measures Inspectorate. The accuracy of these devices will be checked regularly.

The Metrology Laboratory will be the custodian of the National Standards and will have the latest and most accurate balances, weights and other related devices to enable accurate checking of commercial equipment.

Facilities to implement the Seychelles Integrated Energy Project will be established. The first stage of the project will be the development of an integrated energy package made up of a elements of wind, solar and biomass energy production aimed at

reducing the country's dependence on imported oil. The cost of such imports is rising steeply annually while the world's fossil fuel reserves dwindle.

The NRDC expects the search for an alternative energy system to be a long one involving much research.

In the hot water field, for instance, imported solar panels are relatively expensive and a programme for local production is underway. As well as reducing costs this will also add to the islands' technological capability and employment.

The NRDC also thinks that there is a basic need for a reduction of building cost too, a major fact being the importation of cement. The possible setting up of industries making lower cost building materials, such as bricks, tiles and lime and stabilized building blocks,

from local materials, is being considered.

It is already established that high grade lime can be produced from coral and that its use could undoubtedly reduce cement importation by a substantial amount. The development of this technology from the present pilot-scale lime kiln, with manual slaking, into an economically viable semi-automatic plant, will, however, require extensive adaptive research.

Nevertheless, the production of low cost building materials is vital to the country's housing programme.

There are but few of the challenges facing the NRDC but it is already evident that there is a need for professional scientists and technicians. In its press release the NRDC asks school leavers to consider the "almost unlimited opportunities" which will become available during the next few years.

GOVERNMENT MOVES TO BRING ELECTRICITY TO LA DIGUE

Victoria NATION in English 4 Mar 81 pp 1, 2

[Article by Rene Morel]

[Text]

NOW that Praslin is about to switch on to a public electricity supply, plans are in preparation for La Digue too to benefit from this power which is becoming an essential of development.

For the La Digue electrification project which will probably cost over R. 15 million, the Seychelles Electricity Corporation Limited has already held discussion with the French Caisse Centrale de Cooperation Economique on its financing.

The Corporation's general manager, Mr. Jim Romanos, said that a two-man mission from this French aid agency was in Seychelles recently for talks with the Minister for Planning and Development, Dr. Maxime Ferrari, and other senior electricity officials.

A study will first be made to determine the best technical, financial and social solutions for the supply. This will probably be carried out by

Electricité de France which sent a three-man delegation last week to identify the terms of reference.

One idea which the Electricity Corporation is thinking about is to lay two submarine cables from Praslin which will supply power from the Baie Ste Anne Station. On reaching La Digue the lines could be laid underground so as not to spoil the natural beauty of the island by felling trees.

Asked when a concrete start will be made on La Digue electrification project, Mr. Romanos answered, "We would like to follow directly when the Praslin project is completed. This will be sometime early next year."

Meanwhile on Praslin, the building housing the power station is virtually complete, the three generating sets have been installed and the first one is expected to start op-

rating by the end of this month. The official inauguration of the station is planned for June.

The project was recently inspected by a two-man mission from the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development, one of its co-sponsors with the Seychelles government.

Connections to individual houses and other establishments on the island are starting now that overhead mains have been installed. According to Mr. Romanos, over 200 applications have been received from Praslin residents and more are coming in daily. Mr. Romanos also commended the cooperation from the Praslinois people all along the project.

On Mahe, with more domestic demand for electricity, a fifth generation of five megawatts financed under a loan agreement between the Electricity Corporation and the Commonwealth Development Corporation, is being installed at the New Port power station.

"The growth in electricity demand is such that a sixth generation will have to be up in 1983", Mr. Romanos said.

The New Port power station building has also been extended to house the new generators and the Electricity Corporation is holding discussions with Caisse Centrale for the financing of the sixth generator.

REPORTAGE ON NYS ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS

Victoria NATION in English 2, 3 Mar 81 pp 3, 4

[Text]

A cool breeze from Port Launay bay rustles the coconut palms as a boy speaks into a walkie-talkie announcing your arrival to administrative staff in their offices several hundred metres away. A girl takes down your car number and the number of occupants before swinging open the gates. You enter the National Youth Service Village.

Security is as much the responsibility of the 15 to 16 year olds of the NYS as is any other project or duty in the Village. The students must be allowed to carry on their studies and activities with as little disturbance as possible.

Walkie-talkies provide instant communication from anywhere on the 40 hectares of flat coastal strip that make up the Village proper on Port Launay bluff. A few days ago a report came in to the administration of a tourist taking photographs in the living

quarters. It turned out to be a press photographer who had already been cleared, but the message was clear. Vigilance is a word whose meaning is already well known to Village inhabitants.

As you drive through the gates, indeed, even as you wait through the security check, your attention is invariably drawn to a very large neat vegetable garden between the road into the Village and Port Launay beach.

Well-tended healthy rows of tomatoes, lettuce, cucumber, beans, egg plant, chinese cabbage and more extend for several hundred metres between the security fence and the administrative offices.

Here a group of boys and girls weed a bed, there two boys spray the beans with insecticide and behind them another pushes a barrow of cattle manure.

The Village's agricultural activities are not confined to

this garden which may later be used more as a nursery.

Apart from the Village itself on the former La Plaine Estate, the NYS property also includes some 220 hectares of hillside. Parts of this being selected for planting various crops. The students are clearing different areas for pine-apples, bananas, melons, mangoes, oranges, and other fruits as well as for sweet potatoes and cassava and other tubers and for fodder. Crop rotation will be introduced.

Apart from the plantations and gardens around the property, the students will also have small vegetable plots around their clusters of dormitories.

At present an average of 1,500 coconuts a day are collected. But it is estimated that half of the palm are no longer bearing nuts and a good number have been felled for construction. Wherever possible the plantation is being revived.

The NYS property also has a lot of cinnamon bushes. While the scraping of the bark is done by experienced hands, the students are already helping in the drying, baling and weighing which is done in a large old shed that, for the time being, doubles as a cultural centre in the evenings. Two tonnes a month of bark are now being produced. The wood of the bush is used in the wood-burning stoves the children are learning to cook with.

Crop production is based on the Village's needs and the emphasis is on plants that can be grown throughout the year. Any surplus will either be stored, preserved or sold to the Seychelles Commodity Company (Seycom).

The Assistant Co-ordinator for Production whose job includes construction and maintenance as well as agriculture. Mr Olsen Vidot, and other permanent agricultural staff, have already worked out the amount of land needed for each crop. Planting targets have been set accordingly for the students.

The children are being given three months to settle down in the agricultural field but already there are promising signs. Mr Vidot expects the Village to be self-sufficient in vegetables by the end of the year.

Already the children have planted in two weeks 200 more tomato plants than the target of 400 set for the period. The same has happened with some of the other crops. Mr. Vidot says that if the cucumber harvest goes well there will be a surplus thanks to the students' efforts. The faster the children meet the projected needs of their community, the Assistant Co-ordinator continued, the sooner the emphasis can be turned from quantity to quality. It has been worked out, for example, that the Village needs around 500 kilos of tomatoes a month and 12,750 heads of lettuce.

Students spend a week each working on a particular aspect of agriculture. They either concentrate on vegetables, or livestock, or cropping, thus giving each a fair chance to get to know the different types of farming reasonably well.

Whether it is in farming or academic studies, in music or in fishing, the children have experienced and qualified guidance. The Village is employing more professional people to help the students in their different activities and, if need be, as in the case, for example, of sickness among the animals, expert help from outside the Service will be called on.

"The students encourage each other to pull their own weight and so make the work lighter," Mr. Villot said.

Frantic clucking and flying feathers attracts your attention to the other side of the road from the vegetable plot. Some students are catching the older birds for slaughter.

The Village aims to produce more than 1,000 eggs a day from 1,300 birds by August this year. When the chickens are fifteen months old they will be killed to feed the Village.

Other livestock looked after by the children are pigs and cattle. There are now 250 pigs and it is planned to produce 520 a year. The cattle will be mainly a milk herd with the children learning how to do the milking themselves.

At the moment the animals are penned on different parts of the property. A large animal farm will be built on NY5 land outside the village living study compound. The move will also improve health standards by removing the animal pens and manure stocks away from the Village living quarters.

The gentle lapping of waves on the magnificent Port Launay Beach reminds all that the sea as well as the soil, can feed man. But so far fishing is done on a small scale while nets and traps are prepared. Several students lend a hand in making casiers. The Village has special permission from the National Parks and Nature Conservancy Commission to fish in the Port Launay marine park.

A small five-man fibreglass boat brings in some bonitos and tuna caught to the north west. Under the expert eye of a seasoned fisherman a few students at a time go out to sea every now and then to learn not only the skills of fishing but everything else about the life of the fisherman. They learn the names of the different fish and their culinary value; they also learn to read the skies, seas and tides.

The main reason for slow progress here is the need for safety measures since few of the students have reasonable sea legs. There is also the problem of the eager ones who do not swim. Fortunately

swimming is in the sports programme

Students will also get the chance to fish with the Seychelles People's Navy and on the tuna vessels of the Seychelles National Fishing Company as soon as details are ironed out. It is expected to combine fishing with marine engineering and navigation aboard the tuna boats.

Fishing will be one of the very few activities where the girls will not be expected to participate as much as the boys. While fishing in the bay presents no problems, spending long trips at sea, whether in an open boat or aboard a modern tuna vessel, is another matter.

Apart from the practical education of the participants,

the main aim of the Production Unit headed by Mr. Vidot is self-sufficiency in food. Feeding 810 hungry mouths after a hard day's studying and working needs a lot of food and money. But Village staff are optimistic.

The breeding of chickens, cows and pigs is going very well. There are plans to introduce more crops and other animals including ducks. There is certainly no shortage of marshy land for the latter.

If the students continue as they have started, let alone improve as we naturally expect them to do after they are more used to it," said Mr. Vidot, "then they will find themselves running an establishment that is truly economically independent of any outside help."

Studies Will Answer the Problems of Everyday Life

TRADE workshops will play an important role in the life of the National Youth Service.

They were originally planned for 500 students but work on the building was delayed when all available hands were used in building additional dormitories for 300 more children. They are now being extended.

The workshops are in a long two-storey building near the refectory and on the other side of the road from the administrative offices.

They will eventually be properly staffed and equipped to teach students carpentry, masonry, electrical skills, mechanics, plumbing, welding, craftwork and sewing. Students of the masonry

project have already built a fish-pond in the study centre grounds to provide specimens for their biology lessons.

It is now midday and an appetising aroma of a traditional Seychellois curry wafts into the building on a gentle breeze. You follow your nose to a crowded refectory a few metres away. Even if you had not smelt the meal the sound of laughter, conversation and of cutlery scraping against plates would not have failed to attract your attention.

An old shed converted into the refectory, with its kitchen a hive of perspiring activity at one end, can seat about 400 at a time. It a long, half-open and well-aerated building which has of course been thoroughly cleaned and painted.

Only midday meals for the students, their animators, teachers and other staff are prepared here. The students prepare their own breakfast and dinner at their living quarters. However, being busy with their studies or projects in the morning they do not have the time to cook their lunch. Still the children do the washing-up afterwards.

The kitchen has six wood-burning stoves. There is no need for electricity except for the lights and for the freezers which are kept in another building close by.

The NYS property is as rich in wood as in anything else. Cinnamon, for example provides the bark for sale to Seycom, the wood for cooking and leaves for flavouring the popular curries.

Looking out of the refectory and across a shady track leading from the Village road to the site of the sports ground, you see the attractive half-block, half-wood study centre. This comprises two H-shaped clusters, not unlike many of the wooden classrooms of schools all over the island. The study centre is on the north-west edge of the huge sports ground.

There are 12 classrooms, four laboratories and a temporary library. There are still two more classrooms to be added.

When all the equipment has arrived the labs will be on a par with, or even better than, any other in the Republic. In fact, when the centre is fully developed it will be the largest and best-equipped educational establishment in Seychelles.

Nearly 40 teachers will help the students unite theory and practice, thus making education more practical. These include several foreign staff from Canada, England, Guinea, Mauritius and Sri Lanka.

The children will have four hours of academic studies a

day. To cope efficiently with them half will attend the centre in the morning while the other half are involved in other projects. After lunch the two groups will change over.

The Assistant Co-ordinator for education, Mr. Bernard Shamlaye, explains that the centre will teach all subjects found on the curriculum of other schools of the country but in a much more interesting way. For the past few days the students have been meeting their teachers to discuss and work out the study programme, the approach to be taken to the different subjects and the methods to be used. The studies are being organised to answer the problems and questions of everyday life.

It is intended to make full use of audio-visual aids — the Village's TV unit has already started work — includ-

ing audio-tapes, video, film, photography, tape-recorders, slides and printing.

All subjects, whether English or chemistry, will as much as possible be integrated into the realities of everyday Village life. Biology, for example, will also be taught through the study of animals and plants for which the students are responsible in the Village.

Where possible the students will carry out research and field projects to back up the facts learned in the classroom. This way they will understand more clearly the hows and whys of what they are learning.

The centre will also provide a careers guidance service to help the students choose what they would like to do later on in life, to know what to expect and to adapt their choice according to their capabilities.

YOUTH SERVICE SALUTED

Victoria NATION in English 3 Mar 81 pp 1, 2

[Editorial]

[Text]

OVER 800 young students of the National Youth Service, standing in perfect formation, formed a guard of honour before their parents and the President of the Republic at Port Launay village on Sunday.

The young people, impressively militant in their service uniforms, snapped to attention to greet and salute the President and their parents as together they sang the Seychellois National Anthem.

As the strains of the Anthem faded out, it was clear to everyone that history is being made and one of the nation's greatest challenges has been met. Indeed, a new revolutionary era has dawned upon the Seychellois youth with the realisation — at long last — of the National Youth Service programme.

We salute these fine men and daughters of our country for having taken up the challenge of being the first detachment, the first seeds of a revolutionary process, of a new society. In the words of the President, the young men and women "will be the first to sow the seeds of a disciplined and serious society".

Since Liberation, comprehensive structural changes have taken place in the education system of Seychelles. Notably all children are now guaranteed nine years of free education and equality of opportunity, complemented by a policy in line with the country's commitment to build socialism through self-reliance.

It was just not enough to produce young men and women who were only prepared academically. It was necessary to devise

an education system that would also produce young people prepared to contribute their share in building the new revolutionary society.

Looking back before the triumph of the Revolution in June 1977, we recall an era of darkness, an era of shame. No consideration whatsoever had been given to the future young generation of this country.

CONDEMNED TO FATE

Apart from turning our country into a "play-ground" and free-for-all scramble by a rich minority, the youth of our country — our leaders of tomorrow — had been condemned to fate and were prey for all vices: indiscipline, alcoholism, laziness.

Indeed the pre-revolutionary education system was designed to perpetuate the status quo — an opportunity for a few exploiters to educate their children to become ex-

ploiters in their turn. Came June 3, 1977 and all that vanished, gone forever into the ignominious dustbin of history.

FOUNDATION STONE FOR SOCIETY

The National Youth Service programme officially opened on Sunday is, therefore, a progressive education system. It is a foundation stone for a new, serious, disciplined and revolutionary society. It is a training base for the creators of the new Seychelles.

We call upon the people of Seychelles to heed the President's call to ensure that the programme is a success. Constructive criticisms and certainly not wild rumours are what is required of a country committed to creating disciplined and serious conditions — the "sine qua non" for building Socialism.

Together we will continue struggling to make our country march forward.

RENE: NYS WILL PROVIDE THE ONLY SECONDARY EDUCATION

Victoria NATION in English 2 Mar 81 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ronnie Jumeau]

[Text]

OVER TWO thousand National Youth Service students, parents and guests at yesterday's official opening of the Port Launay Village applauded President France Albert Rene's announcement that by 1983 all children wanting a complete secondary education would have to pass through the Service.

Facing around 800 NYS students drawn up in parade formation on the site of the Village's sports ground, Mr. Rene said "In January 1983 Seychellois children who wish to continue their education after PO will have to carry on their studies in the National Youth Service. And so we will have completed our educational reforms and all our children will have to run along the same route."

The President started his speech in the blaring sunshine with a look back at the pre-revolutionary educational system. He recalled that in the

past the better schools were only for those who could afford them, thus giving their students a much better chance to further their education.

The result was that "one would believe that if the parents were poor financially their children were poor intellectually. If the parents had money their children were intelligent." This, of course, was not the case.

And yet, the Head of State continued, the less efficient parish schools that provided free "education" for the poor were bypassed by the Government of the day in favour of those establishments for the affluent that were already being financed by their fees.

"It is for this reason that after the revolution of June 5 1977, we decided to make sure that all our children get the same opportunities, that we abolished the fee-paying system and established the new system whereby all our children have to attend school

in their districts, and that we started giving a better education to all our children without exception and without preference."

"I do not have to remind you that there were certain people who did not like this. There were even those who preferred to send their children to school in other countries. We wish them good luck," Mr. René added.

The President pointed out that the Convent at Mont Fleuri had been closed and was now used to prepare students for University.

Meanwhile there remained a group of children who had preferred to continue their secondary education from forms three to five at Seychelle College. All these would have finished by 1984 when this alternative system of secondary education would be phased out. After that the NYS would be the only system offering any secondary education, the President said.

"It is my belief and sincere conviction that all of you here in the NYS Village will have become the first pioneers of our new society," Mr. René continued. "On leaving here after two years you will be the first to sow the seeds of a disciplined and serious society."

Mr. René then explained what he meant, saying that leaving behind old habits such as ill-discipline, alcoholism,

laziness and the lack of respect for each other, our parents and the elderly, the NYS graduates would have to create a society of producers, workers and discipline.

"We have to establish love for others, co-operation and fraternity," the President stressed.

While it had not been easy to set up the NYS in the face of continuous, and continuing, opposition the will of all involved remained firm. "Just as our National Anthem says: 'Our way has been traced and we will not fall back,'" the Head of State quoted. "Together we will continue struggling to make our country march forward."

Pointing out that only half of the country's pupils who had finished P9 had chosen the "moral" and "fraternal" life of the NYS, the President expressed the hope that the critics of the Service would do something to help those who had been dissuaded from joining. Meanwhile rumours, even by some people in responsible positions, would still continue.

However, it was important for the children to learn not to depend on the sweat of others the President explained. "If in this country we do not produce what we consume ourselves who will do it for us?"

The country would benefit greatly if the critics of the Village's agricultural programme used their mouths a bit less and their hands a bit more, he said.

The Head of State who also chairs the NYS Advisory board, ended his speech with a call for any suggestions aimed at improving the service.

Speaking before the President's address, the Chief Co-ordinator of the Village, Mrs. Florence Benstrong, hit out sharply at those spreading "malicious" rumours about the NYS.

"I will not waste time trying to make you believe that everything here is perfect because that would be a lie," she said. "All of you here know that it cannot be perfect at so early a stage. We have 800 youngsters from 800 families, 800 different ways of life..."

The Chief Co-ordinator then called for the co-operation of the participants with the staff

specially selected to guide and help them.

Pointing out that the children's presence in the Village was a sign of the confidence their parents had in the concept, Mrs. Benstrong called on the parents to act as ambassadors of the NYS outside the Village.

The opening ceremony started with a speech by Allan Carols, one of the students, who stressed the importance of the NYS to its participants and explained the concept behind the Service.

After Mr. René had declared the Village open, the students, smartly-dressed for the first time in their brown ceremonial uniforms, led their parents to their dormitories for refreshments and to see the living conditions. In some clusters the students and their animators explained what they were doing in the Service and answered questions.

Later the President, too, toured the clusters talking to students and parents.

KOREAN ENGINEERS MAKE SITE STUDY OF NEW STADIUM PROJECT

Victoria NATION in English 21 Feb 81 pp 1, 2

(Article by Ronnie Jumeau)

(Text)

A FIVE-STRONG team of construction engineers from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has arrived in Seychelles for a site study of a new international-standard stadium complex for Victoria.

Whilst no concrete plan for the project has been drawn up yet, a site has been identified on reclaimed land south of the 33 kv electricity line causeway linking the southern end of the New Port to the Teacher Training College grounds at Mont Fleuri.

The team was taken on an inspection visit there on Thursday by the Minister of State for Youth and Community Development, Mr. Exme Jumeau, who, as Minister responsible for sports, explained the layout of the land and the country's sporting needs.

Also providing technical details and the requirements of the Sports Department, were the Principal Secretary for Youth and Community Development, Mr. Ralph

Adam, and the locally-based consultant engineer for the project, Mr. Anders Svensson-Rydin.

The party then visited the 4,000-seat People's Stadium to examine its layout and construction.

The team, which is reported to have had much experience in such construction work, will during the next 45 days, meet and make more visits with local government, planning, construction and sports officials before producing a detailed design for approval by Government.

The cost and construction time of the project will depend on the actual design. All locally-available construction materials, such as wood and earth and grass for the pitch, will be provided by the Seychelles Government. All other construction costs and materials that need to be imported will be covered by the DPRK Government.

The project follows agreements between the two governments signed during President René's state visit to Korea last October.

BRIEFS

COPRA SALE--The Seychelles Commodity Company (Seycom) which is now the sole exporter of all the country's produce has announced its first sales of copra to a foreign company. The sale, 500 tonnes of first grade copra and 250 tonnes of cup copra, is to a Pakistani firm, with the final delivery being set for June. Although the price of copra on the world market is quite low, Seycom's General Manager, Mr. Ernest Desnousse has pointed out however that "our copra products, because of their high quality, are readily finding overseas markets and fetching the highest prices." Mr. Desnousse said Seycom was now in the process of negotiating its own selling price at a stable rate instead of waiting for the buyer to fix the price. Apart from copra, Seycom is also the exporting agent for cinnamon, fish, tea, tortoise shell and other products. Contacts are being made to get higher and more stable prices for cinnamon, the country's second most important export crop. Seycom buys all export produce from national producers, thus leaving them with no worries about marketing, while at the same time ensuring that all foreign earnings go to the state and profits re-invested for the benefit of all the people. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 3 Mar 81 p 1]

TANZANIAN MILITARY DELEGATION--A delegation from the Tanzanian Ministry of Defence, headed by the Chief of Staff of the Tanzanian People's Defence Forces, Major General I. Kombe, arrived in Seychelles on Sunday. The delegation, which also includes Brigadier M. Munkalindile and Lieutenant-Colonel Kizoka, held talks yesterday morning with the Minister of Defence and Chief of Defence Forces, Mr. Ogilvy Berlouis, and Chief of Staff, Mr. James Michel. The Tanzanian military officers will also be visiting the various Defence Forces units in the country and discuss with unit commanders and officers. The visitors are also expected to call on President Rene during their stay here. SAP [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 24 Feb 81 p 2]

MINISTER TOURS GULF STATES--The Minister for Transport and Tourism, Mr. Matthew Servina, leaves Seychelles on Monday for a three-week tourism promotion tour of the Gulf states. The Minister told SAP yesterday that the main objective of his extensive tour--that will take him to Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Iraq and Saudi Arabia--will be to identify new tourism markets and discuss arrangements for future air links "with the Arab world." The Minister, expected back home on March 15, will be accompanied during his trip by the General Manager of Air Seychelles, Mrs. Mary Stravens, and the acting Air Commandant Mr. Maurice Lalanne. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 21 Feb 81 p 2]

PIONEER WEEK--For the first time since the formation of their movement in 1977, Pioneers and Young Pioneers are expected to meet together during the school holidays for their special Pioneer Week. The week, which will start on May 4, was promised last year to the young militants when they held their Pioneer Days in their respective regions. According to Mr. Andrea Mounac, of the Department of Youth and Community Development, who is helping in the preparation of the Pioneer Week, this will be the first occasion when Pioneers and Young Pioneers from all over Mahe, Praslin and La Digue will get together to take part in various activities. The special week will reach its climax on May 9 when there will be a passing-out parade and a mass display in Victoria involving hundreds of young militants. [Excerpt] [Victoria NATION in English 25 Feb 81 pp 1, 2]

NEW LANGUAGES TAUGHT--The Ministry of Education and Information is continuing its drive to improve knowledge by expanding adult education as a complement to the school programme, which this year has taken a great step forward with the introduction of the National Youth Service. Evening classes for people who want to improve their knowledge in physics, chemistry, biology, maths, French and English will continue, and two new languages, Russian and Arabic, are being offered this year. Applications for these courses should have closed on February 20, but because of some delays, the Ministry has now extended the deadline to Friday, February 27. Many of those who have applied so far have asked to follow the language courses, including the two new subjects. Ten have so far applied for Russian and 15 for Arabic, clearly demonstrating the interest in learning as many languages as possible. A spokesman for the Ministry said that since Seychelles was being offered scholarships by many different countries, it was important to know the languages of as many donor countries as possible. Many more languages would be introduced in the syllabus of evening classes, she added, and depending on the interest shown, there was a possibility they might also be included in the school's curriculum. The next language expected to be taught is Spanish. [Excerpt] [Victoria NATION in English 25 Feb 81 p 2]

NEW ICE PLANT--The new ice-making plant being erected at the Long Pier is now expected to be in operation late this month and not in June as previously announced. At the start of construction it was hoped that the plant would start work in January this year. Fishing officials involved in the Abu Dhabi Development Fund-financed project admitted this morning that the work was two or three weeks behind schedule but added that they were satisfied with the performance of the installers, Machinery and Equipment Ltd. When working, the plant will be able to produce 10 tonnes of flaked-ice a day for fishing boats and schooners, replacing the now inadequate services provided by Seychelles Breweries. With the plant's production backed up by a 20 tonne storage capacity, fishing officials see no reason why fishing boats should lie idle in the future because of ice shortages. The number of prospective customers for the plant has been taken into consideration. One significant advantage of the new plant over the present service offered by the breweries is that ice will be delivered directly on to the fishing boats alongside the small quay at the Seycom fish coldstore. The flaked ice produced will be much better for storing fish than the large blocks provided by Seybrew and which have to be broken up. The plant will be operated by the Seychelles National Commodity Company. The site was visited last week by a two-man mission from the Abu Dhabi fund who were in Seychelles for talks. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 6 Mar 81 p 2]

PRIVATE ISLAND OWNERS WARNED--The Minister for Planning and Development, Dr. Maxime Ferrari, has warned that the Government will acquire all mismanaged privately owned islands. The Minister told SAP in an interview yesterday that the privately owned island of Silhouette was not the only one that has been grossly mismanaged. "There are a number of other granitic islands in private hands that are being mismanaged," the Minister said. The Minister, who last month toured Silhouette, the country's third largest granitic island on a fact-finding tour, said it was the Government's duty to "revive hope and dignity" on individual islands populated by the people of this country. As a result of sheer neglect, Minister Ferrari said, Silhouette will now need substantial investment just to prop it back to what it was a decade ago. "Silhouette had a population of 500 people who lived and worked on the islands. Because of lack of proper management, this population has gone down to 300 people. And the social development has slackened considerably," said Dr. Ferrari. Dr. Ferrari, speaking after his tour of Silhouette last month had then emphasised the pressing need for Government to examine closely the economic and social deterioration of the privately owned island. SAP [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 6 Mar 81 p 1]

AIR LINK WITH FRG--The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Seychelles, Dr. Alfred Kuehn, called on President Rene at State House yesterday. Dr. Kuehn earlier signed an air service agreement with Defence Minister Ogilvy Berlouis which officially establishes civil air links between Seychelles and West Germany. Minister Berlouis was signing the agreement on behalf of the Minister of Transport and Tourism, Mr. Matthew Servina at present on a tourism promotion tour in Arab countries of the Middle East. Captain James Ferrari, the Principal Secretary for Transport and Tourism, who was among those present at the signing, explained that the air agreement was negotiated and initialled back in 1979. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 28 Feb 81 p 2]

ALL-NIGHT BUS SERVICE--An all-night bus service throughout Mahe and Praslin is to be introduced in June after the arrival from India of 30 new buses expected in the next two months. The chairman of the Board of Directors of the Seychelles Public Transport Corporation, Mr. Guy Morel, announced the good news for passengers in an interview with SAP yesterday. An all-night bus service, Mr. Morel said, will be introduced in the interest of people working shifts, such as nurses, security watchmen and other citizens and visitors needing transport during odd hours. Mr. Morel said the system cannot be introduced immediately because SPTC "has no adequate fleet" at the moment. The new Tata buses will replace some old ones needing repair work. The SPTC chairman also had good news for Praslin. A small workshop is being built there to cater for its small fleet of buses and about 12 new buses will be sent to the island to beef up its present fleet ready for an all-night system. Commenting on the progress of the new SPTC Workshop and Technical Training Centre inaugurated recently by President Rene, Mr. Morel said there has been improvement and that SPTC "is operating at 90-95 percent efficiency." [Excerpt] [Victoria NATION in English 28 Feb 81 pp 1, 2]

ABU DHABI FUND MISSION--A two-man mission from the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development (UAE) is in Seychelles to appraise certain projects which the Seychelles Government has submitted to the fund for financing. The two experts, Mr. Faiz Makdissi and Mr. Mohammed A. Baghi have met the Minister for Planning and Development, Dr. Maxime Ferrari and other officials for discussions on the North-East-North-West water link (Anse Etoile-Machabee) on Mahe, treated water supplied for Praslin and La Digue and upgrading of Mahe roads. Also, as part of their visits, the mission checked progress made on existing Abu Dhabi-funded projects in Seychelles. These include, apart from the electrification project of Mahe, the ice-making plant at the Long Pier. A communique from the Ministry of Planning and Development have noted good progress in those two projects. The communique also stated that the ice-making plant will be commissioned later this month. The Abu Dhabi funded's decision on the financing of the water and road projects decision on the financing is expected shortly. [Text] [Victoria NATION in English 5 Mar 61 p 1]

CSO: 4420

CHIEFTAINCY INSTITUTION, VALUES DEFENDED

Freetown DAILY MAIL in English 2 Mar 81 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text] The coming together of Paramount Chiefs in a conference as happened in Pujehun last week definitely means a lot that is positive for the institution of Chieftaincy.

As President Stevens put it, the exchange of views and the pulling together of ideas and resources do not only benefit the institution but also provide better understanding of Government and Party machinery.

Contemporary socio-political analysts and historians agree that the Chieftaincy institution has been most complimentary to Central Government organisms in Africa before and after independence.

The existence of chiefdoms and the administration of such Chiefdoms by Paramount chiefs and sub-authorities manifest the development and continuation of government by Africans ourselves long before Western and other forms of civilisation entered this continent.

The origins, responses and impulses of Chiefdom government reflect most vividly the characteristics of indigenous African philosophical concepts in relation to society and community cooperation (which latter, in a deep sense, is what politics and government are all about).

As such, the Chieftaincy institution should be respected and given every support for its continuation.

It is, as such, regressive that many politicians all over the continent have tried to manipulate chiefdom administrations for selfish and negative use.

It is important that the Chiefs be protected by the Central government from such political bigotry and it is accordingly stimulating that our government continues to hold with esteem the role of Chieftaincy in our country.

As society keeps on developing so do circumstances and situations change.

The need for our Paramount chiefs to adapt themselves to the conditions for the benefit of their subjects and the nation cannot be overemphasised.

With such conferences as that last week to pin-point stresses, short-comings and new approaches, the future for institution is clearly secured.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

DRILLING RIG--A vessel to undertake a sea bottom survey to estimate the depth of the sea for the erection of the drilling rig in Sierra Leone is expected next week. This was a disclosure made by the head of a six-man delegation from the Sierra Leone Oil Exploration when they paid a courtesy call on President Siaka Stevens at the State House this week. Mr. Charlie Hays who is the Task Force Manager said that the company was conducting preliminary studies of the dock and communication facilities in the area while also setting up its various administrative machinery. He informed the President of the construction of an oil rig which is currently going on in Texas and which will be completed in late May or early June for the use by the company in Bonthe. Mr. Hays said that the data from the Seismic Survey which was undertaken by the Seismic vessel Nelson is now being processed in Texas. With the Task Force Manager at the State House were the Logistics Superintendent Mr. H.J. McAllister, the Drilling Company Representative, Mr. A.A. Bell, the Mobil Production Engineer, Mr. J.D. Anderson; the Mobil Accountant, Mr. A.R. Cobb; the Electronics Engineer, Mr. B.J. McClendon and the Consultant, Mr. A.H. Eku Lake. [Text] [Freetown DAILY MAIL in English 26 Feb 81 pp 1, 8]

CSO: 4420

SANCTIONS WOULD STRONGLY AFFECT NEIGHBOR BLACK STATES

Punitive Measures

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Mar 81 p 1

[Article by Jaap Theron]

[Text]

THE South African Government is ready to cut down food supplies and strategically important assistance such as transport assistance to neighbouring and other African states if they continue to support United Nations and other international actions aimed at harming the economy of South and Southern Africa.

Following the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha's, warning yesterday that counteractions would be considered if neighbouring states continued to reject South Africa's formula for peaceful economic co-operation, informed observers pointed out "that South Africa was no longer prepared to be the unilateral benefactor in Africa".

It is believed the matter was duly discussed at this week's Cabinet and State Security Council meetings after all the neighbouring states, with the exception of Swaziland which was absent, expressed their support for compulsory sanctions against South Africa by the UN Secretary Council.

It is now clear that the latest General Assembly resolution calling for sanctions against South Africa has led to the Government using its strategic trump cards, including food, technical assistance, and minerals.

Early indications are that Pretoria is likely to hit the beneficiaries in Africa where they will suffer most, by cutting food supplies.

There is no question of measures that will lead to the starvation of the already famine-stricken African states, but possible measures will apparently be strong enough to have the necessary counter-effects.

Most of South Africa's close neighbours have received direct or indirect economic assistance from South Africa over the past years. This assistance included medical assistance and the upkeep of railway and other transport systems.

Mr P W Botha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, recently warned again that sanctions against South Africa would hit its Black neighbours much more severely for they were interdependent on South Africa's economy.

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 81 p 6

[Editorial: "Sanctions?"]

[Text]

THE United Nations General Assembly's latest call for mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa is bound to be blocked by a Western veto when it comes before the Security Council towards the end of next month.

That is the general opinion among the international lobbies in New York. The next step will be to convene a special emergency session of the Assembly to take up the issue again ... and again.

The dogs that have been yapping at our heels for years are not likely to cast away this particular bone while their Soviet masters crack the whip. So one way or another, South Africa will have to accept that sanctions, albeit limited in extent, are going to be applied against the Republic — if not immediately, then at some time in the future.

Mr Pik Botha, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, said as much last November on his return from Europe, where he had discussed the South West Africa settlement question. But he also warned against creating the impression that South Africa was afraid of sanctions, since this would make us vulnerable on that front.

The nature of sanctions, should they be imposed, will probably follow in short order the progression of steps laid down in Chapter Seven of the UN Charter, which deals with countries declared to be "a threat to world peace".

They boil down to the following:

An arms embargo (already in operation); a ban on nuclear co-operation; an embargo on heavy capital machinery; an oil embargo, including a UN blockade (prohibitively costly); a complete or selective trade embargo, cutting land, sea air and telecommunication links; breaking off diplomatic relations.

That is the darker side of the picture, and even then South Africa is well able to withstand any one, or all of them, for several years.

The biggest boomerang will be against Black African nations, the very ones who are most vociferous in demanding sanctions.

With South Africa conducting trade with Black Africa to the tune of well over R1 000-million a year in exports and more than R500-million a year in imports, this amounts to cutting one's throat and asking others to assist in the suicide.

But, of course, those countries have become so used to having their forever-empty begging

bowls filled with largesse from all quarters that they fail to realize they will be dead under a mountain of ill long before South Africa feels the slightest distress.

They also fail to see it is exactly what Russia wants — and that is strange, since the ways of the scavenging vulture are well known in Africa.

One hopes that in the end practicality will prevail, for political rhetoric has never filled empty stomachs.

When the time comes, they might find that South Africa, as the only country in a good position to help fill those stomachs, has cut off the bread.

CSO: 4420

IMPLICATIONS OF REAGAN ECONOMIC POLICY DISCUSSED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 81 p 16

[Article by Daan de Kock, Financial editor]

[Text]

THE new economic package of president Reagan has a fair chance of success, but only after a time-lag of at least six months, and then only gradually.

This means that it will be some time before there is any influence on the South African economy. Standard Bank said in its latest Economic Review.

A gradually improving US economic situation, in which growth is stimulated and interest rates, inflation rates, and unemployment levels decline, would have important implications over the medium-term for the South African economy, the review feels.

The main areas affected will be the foreign exchange market and the exchange rate, the balance of trade, and the gold price.

Standard says the indications are that US interest rates will continue downward, and turn around in mid-year from still very high levels. Because the gap between South African interest rates and those of the US will narrow, the discount on forward dollars will also narrow and, if the upward pressure on South African interest rates is maintained after a seasonally stiff period in April and May, the discount may be trans-

formed into a premium.

The bank says it is also likely that the dollar will remain firm in general, and also against the rand. The rand will probably decline in mid-1981 in both dollar and average terms, as the South African balance of payments turns from a substantial surplus to an increasing deficit.

As far as South Africa's balance of trade is concerned, the picture looks a bit gloomy. "Growth in the US is not likely to accelerate until the second half of the year and the reflected stimulation to other key export markets such as the UK, West Germany and Japan will be felt later on. Consequently South African exporters will be faced by stiff competition, slack demand and low prices" the bank says.

As far as gold is concerned "the continuation of high real interest rates on dollar investments and a strong dollar imply downward pressure on the bullion price, but is impossible to rule out a sudden rise in the world's political temperature as the result of international crises" the bank adds.

It concludes, however, that the real effect of slack world and US growth on the gold price will not be significant.

REPORTAGE ON ELECTION, POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

NP Election Pamphlet

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Mar 81 p 7

(Text)

THE first in a series of National Party information pamphlets in which the NP strongly denies that it is selling the Whites in South Africa down the river, was issued in Johannesburg yesterday.

Introducing the pamphlet, which will be distributed throughout the public, to the Press, the Minister of Co-operation and Development and chairman of the Information Committee of the Federal Council of the NP, Dr Piet Koenhof, said a series of pamphlets, dealing with different aspects of policy, would be issued.

The first pamphlet poses a number of questions under the heading: "Is It True?"

That everything is being done for the Black man with the White man's money?

That the Government is selling the White man down the river?

That the NP is on the road to integration, with mixed residential areas and schools?

That the Government is pumping money into African states and feeding terrorists?

Realities

In answer, the pamphlet points out that South Africa

is not a welfare state and that the National Party deals in realities.

Land consolidation takes place in order to guarantee the land rights of the Whites. Without properly consolidated areas for the Blacks there could be no lasting political solution for South Africa, says the pamphlet.

Referring to the issue of housing, the pamphlet says no houses are "given" to Blacks.

The policy of the Government is that housing has to be supplied through private initiative but the state cannot allow the situation to get out of hand. Where necessary the problem has to be handled through State funds. The question here is not whether too much is being done for the Black man but rather, that order is being created in the interest of all.

Regarding income tax, Blacks in some instances pay more than Whites but in other cases the Whites pay more. General Sales Tax was introduced with the specific purpose of widening the tax net as wide as possible.

The National Party still offers the White Political rights while the political aspirations of the Blacks are canalised into ten separate areas with their

own governments.

Their own identity;

A safe road ahead with the strongest defence force in Africa and an able police force which ensures the safety of all the country's people.

Peaceful co-existence which establishes a basis of harmony between peoples and nations.

The Government does not want the aspirations of other groups and nations to be trodden down because this would give rise to revolution and conflict. For this reason the National Party treats the aspirations of others fairly.

It is easy to shout and scream, to whip up unrest, to create fear and hysteria and to insult and humiliate people.

But this is not expected from civilized people and the country's political leaders. They are expected to be responsible and to take decisions calmly and reasonably.

Schools

Denying allegations that the National Party is on the road to integration, the pamphlet says the party is still busy with the process of establishing nations and people. — Sapa.

(Report by S. Shoen, 427 Old Marston Building, Harrow Green, Johannesburg.)

FFP-NP Deal Charge

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 81 p 12

[Text]

THE national leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Vaan Ruy, has accused the FFP of doing a deal with the Nationalists in order to split the vote and help themselves and the National Party to win seats which neither of them could otherwise win.

Speaking at a Johannesburg conference of the NRP candidates in the Transvaal yesterday, he said it was clear that some clandestine arrangement must have been reached — especially in Natal and the border, where the FFP had involved itself in "spoiling tactics" in seats where they would probably lose their deposits but might scrape enough votes together to ensure a National Party victory.

Examples quoted by Mr Ruy included Queenstown, which the old United Party won by a majority of 13 and

19 votes before the constituency was delimitated and which has now been improved for the NRP in the latest delimitation.

King William's Town, which should be a certain NRP gain without the intervention of the FFP, was another case in point, he said.

In East London North and East London City, where the FFP had no hope of winning, they had intervened to assist the Nationalists.

It should be made clear that the new East London North delimitation has included so many Nats that the FFP, which we beat last October, has become totally irrelevant — except as spoilers, he said.

As far as Natal was concerned, Mr Ruy said that Amanzimtoti, which the FFP had never fought before and which the NRP won by only 900 votes in 1977, was a clear indication of "spoiling tactics."

"Another example is Greytown, where the FFP

has no hope of winning and which is a straight NRP-Nat fight. One can also cite Mool River, where the FFP has no chance of winning whatsoever."

Mr Ruy also quoted Pietermaritzburg South, which the NRP won in 1977 with a substantial majority in a straight fight against the Nats.

"In stark contrast to this is the fact that there is a notable absence of FFP candidates fighting really tough Nat seats as the New Republic Party is doing in the interests of presenting an acceptable alternative to the South African electorate.

"My own seat (Durban Point) is an example of the FFP primary objective of attempting to destroy the New Republic Party. I believe that the electorate will recognise this as a ploy and will discard the patently selfish and desperate attempts of the FFP to cling onto its tenuous position as the official opposition.

(Report by Gideon van Oudshoorn, 671 Market Building, Harcourt Street, Johannesburg / 504)

'Aksie Eie Toekoms' Group

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Mar 81 p 3

[Article by Jaap Theron]

[Text]

THE latest political group to take part in the April general election, Aksie Eie Toekoms (Action Own Future), yesterday announced the names of their three candidates for the election.

Dr Willie Lubbe, leader of the group, said they have decided to put up only two parliamentary, and one provincial candidates.

Mr Moolman Mentz and Mr Chris de Jager, both advocates in Pretoria, will be the parliamentary candidates in Soutpanaberg and Potgietersrus, while Mr K van der Walt will be the provincial candidate in Delmas.

A spokesman for the group, Dr J A Gerber, said yesterday that they had initially considered putting up candidates in Potchefstroom, Klerksdorp, Loeberg, Verwoerdburg and Witbank.

But, because of the early election, they found it impossible to evaluate their positions in each of these constituencies and had decided to stick to seats where they thought they had a chance.

Dr Gerber said his group was, however, still considering putting up a parliamentary candidate in a Pretoria seat.

He said his group had opened a permanent office in the Colonial Mutual building in Pretoria with two full-time public relations officials and with himself as full-time official in charge.

The group will, immediately before the election, establish action committees in all four provinces, he said.

Their first public meeting, at which they will state their case, will be held at Potchefstroom on Thursday evening, to be followed by similar meetings in Christiesburg and Pretoria.

Dr Gerber said the intention of his group is to form a party between the National Party and the Herstigte Nasionale Party.

He said they intend to fight "clean" and only on a Conservative Party, he said Dr Mulder's NCP was "of no consequence, whilst the HNP had not won any standing in 11 years".

Asked what he found

Asked why they did not rather join one of the two existing rightwing parties, the HNP or the National "factual basis."

"Other parties and personalities will never be dragged down in the sort of gentleman's politics we intend to play," Dr Gerber said.

wrong with NP policy, Dr Gerber said. "The NP's policy was pragmatic but not honest.

The NP should have told the nation it was changing its principles drastically and not stated it adapted its policies to suit present day needs," he said.

He said his group was receiving enough money from all over the country to make a limited election campaign possible.

Report by Jany Theron, 190 Market Street, Pretoria.

GREATER ROLE FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILS URGED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 81 p 10

[Article by Lawrence Mayekiso]

[Text]

COMMUNITY councils are eager for the Government to broaden their area of operation by allowing them to participate in national civil affairs.

They mentioned this to Dr. Piet Koornhof, Minister of Co-operation and Development during a recent meeting.

Mr. David Thebehali, chairman of the Soweto Council, says over the years urban Blacks have told the Government that politically, socially and economically Black urban areas were separate entities requiring an overall dispensation of their own.

Outlining the future role community council could play, he said: "It is Blacks in the urban areas who are best qualified to make representations for this dispensation."

"The Government is on record as recognising Blacks management in the urban areas and it is also pursuing the machinery for participation in a council of states."

In dissociating himself from Government policy which regards homeland leaders as the leaders of all Blacks, Mr Thebehali said: "It would be politically incorrect to pursue joint representation with the homeland leaders."

"Our political supporters and sympathisers will strongly criticise us for reviving the political attitude that Black political representation should be through the community councils with homeland leaders."

Mr Thebehali said his views on the future role of community councils had already been sent to the Government.

Strong support for his views have come from Mr Mpiyakhe Kumalo, a Witwatersrand University Lecturer and chairman of the Katlehong Community Council.

Mr Kumalo may influence Government thinking as he is one of two Blacks on the committee presently redrafting three bills dealing

with future Black administration.

Mr. Kumalo is a Government appointee. He said community councils with political powers should not be seen as pressure groups but bodies aiming to fulfil Black aspirations through negotiations with the Government.

"We have to show the Government that as law-abiding citizens, Blacks can no longer be taken for granted, nor can we continue accepting the exclusion of Blacks in power and decision-making bases."

Together with all South Africans of moderate views, we, in the final analysis, shall be the only real 'power-base' and stabilising force.

Disregarding our influence and significance is courting the shortest and surest way to chaos", Mr Kumalo said.

He added community councils had asked Dr Koornhof to talk to all Black leaders, irrespective of their political affiliations.

'PRETORIA-JERUSALEM AXIS' LIKELY TO CONTINUE

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 1 Mar 81 p 29

[Article by Marcus Arkin]

[Text]

IN the cynical world of international affairs every nation ultimately is alone and must depend solely on itself for survival.

This at least is the view of some top CIA policymakers with regard to the United States, and therefore it could be said to apply even more forcefully to smaller countries whose very existence is questioned by their adversaries — countries like South Africa and Israel. But such survival stakes also promote a search for supportive friends.

It is hardly surprising therefore that close ties between South Africa and Israel have developed in recent years. Although their internal problems are quite different, both confront in-built hostility from the UN, both are directly threatened by their neighbours, and both are menaced by Soviet diplomatic and strategic designs.

Propaganda

Those who have watched it develop cannot have failed to note how the worldwide propaganda campaign against the Zionist movement (which got under way in 1975 with the UN General Assembly's notorious resolution equating Zionism with racism) is couched in Marxist terminology. When Israel is labelled "an outpost of

Western imperialism" or a "colonial settler state", the rhetoric does not emanate from Kowak or Riyadh.

And however ridiculous it may sound to those who are aware of the facts, the alleged existence of a "Pretoria-Jerusalem Axis" has become an accepted truism in the lexicon of international propaganda clichés — although this particular charge, with its usage of the historically loaded term "axis", is instantly identifiable as a cynical Soviet contribution.

To understand the true origin and nature of the present cordial ties between South Africa and Israel one has to be familiar with the evolution of the Zionist movement in this country and the role it has played in cementing that relationship.

In particular, one has to be aware of the impact on the development of modern Israel of those South Africans who over the last three decades have settled there to fulfil their Zionist ideals, and who have become involved in Israeli professional life across a broad spectrum: in medicine and the academic world (including many aspects of pure and applied research), in politics, journalism and the diplomatic corps, in law and accountancy — in all these spheres and others (such as the performing arts) — the South African impact has been profound.

In fact, visitors to Israel from other parts of the world frequently express astonishment when they learn that the South African segment of the population runs to only about 15,000 since so many key positions are held by them.

Close touch

It is not surprising, therefore, that cultural links between the two countries have assumed major proportions. University personnel are in constant and close touch with one another and teams of scientists and technical specialists are engaged in joint research projects of tremendous political benefit to both peoples.

When these developments are viewed together with a burgeoning two-way tourism and enhanced investment opportunities, the relationship assumes economic significance as well. Trade itself, though still relatively small, has great potential since the two economies are essentially complementary. Israel lacks natural resources and abundant manpower, but it does possess sophisticated know-how in fields like electronics and it has a highly developed industrial base.

Moreover, it enjoys associate membership of the European Economic Community. It is hardly surprising therefore that Israel is one of South Africa's fastest growing trading partners.

Hence, today's close relationship is the product of independent historical and environmental forces which have been strengthened by circumstances. Both South Africa and Israel find themselves caught up in the global struggle between the two superpowers and both depend heavily on retaining a measure of American goodwill and an effective dialogue with Washington.

Their special relationship with each other, therefore, resting on these growing cultural, economic, and diplomatic ties, does not arise out of some temporary emergency situation but has become a major aspect of foreign policies emanating from both Jerusalem and Pretoria in terms of what is jointly recognised as mutually beneficial long-term collaboration along several parallel fronts.

How long-term? Are there factors at work which could upset the apple-cart? For example, it has been suggested that if the Labour alignment ousts Mr Begin's government in the forthcoming June elections, the ties may become less cordial.

Benefits

While it is true that a Pretoria administration could be more susceptible to leftwing "anti-apartheid" agitation, such pressure is most unlikely to be allowed to jeopardise the very tangible benefits to Israel of the existing relationship.

What about the Black African states? Are they likely to demand a breach with South Africa as the price for restoring diplomatic links with Jerusalem? Possibly the effort might be attempted by countries like Nigeria and Ghana, but Israel, having withstood heavier pressures from other directions, such as the UN, is not likely to give way.

In the conduct of foreign policy, every country has to judge its relationship with others in terms of what suits its own national interests. On the basis of that fundamental yardstick it would seem that the "Pretoria-Jerusalem Axis" may well enjoy a long and healthy future.

© Professor Arhin is director-general of the SA Zionist Federation.

NONWHITES IN PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL SERVING FUTILE ROLE

Capetown MUSLIM NEWS in English 27 Feb 81 p 20

[Editorial: "President's Council--Con Game?"]

[Text]

There is no chance that Coloureds, Chinese or Indians would be placed on a common voters' roll. This was revealed through a remark made by the Nationalist Prime Minister, P W Botha, during a heated clash between the Government and the official Opposition during a parliamentary debate.

According to a national Sunday newspaper, the remark is unrecorded in Hansard, but attested to by Opposition members.

The statement by Botha should certainly erase all doubts from the minds of the Coloured and Indian selected members of the President's Council that they are being used, and to take note of what Botha had expressed. The inclusion of Africans in the ranks of the President's Council is heresy.

The Coloureds and Indians on the President's Council are the window-dressing the Government needs for outside consumption, and to make gullible 'non-whites' feel that their ultimate needs will be satisfied.

The exclusion of Coloureds, Chinese and Indians from a

common voters' roll shows the disregard the Nationalist government has for its puppets. If there was any indication of integrity in the workings of the President's Council then all Black people would have been included, and not, as present, representing ethnic groups excluding Africans.

Some of the 'non-whites' occupying seats on the President's Council have been members of the Coloured Representative Council and the Indian Council. Apparently they have not learned the futility of their role as 'paper dragons' on Councils not worth the paper their suggestions to the State were written on.

An Indian member of the President's Council stated that he was prepared to give the Council a 12-month trial after which Africans should be allowed to take their seat. One dare say that he need not wait any longer.

One could be forgiven a note of cynicism when a conclusion is reached that these 'non-whites' are not without any illusion about the lack of political clout they possess but are acutely aware of the financial benefits to themselves.

'MUSLIM NEWS' URGES BOYCOTT OF UNIVERSITY SPORTS FACILITIES

Capetown MUSLIM NEWS in English 27 Feb 81 p 18

[Excerpts]

SACOS President, Hassan Howa, apparently shocked some of South Africa's 'pink liberals' last week when he stated clearly SACOS's opposition to the use of sports facilities at universities in this country by anti-racist sportsmen.

Mr Howa was invited to address university students during fresher's week in Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg and was extensively questioned on SACOS' attitude to the use of facilities especially at so-called liberal institutions such as UCT, Wits and Natal.

According to reports, Mr Howa shocked his audiences by saying non-racial sportsmen ran the risk of being ostracised by SACOS affiliates if they were found to be using the sports facilities at the universities. His reason was that while they are forced to apply for permission to study at these institutions and thereby use the educational facilities under protest, they are not forced to use the sports facilities, which are extra-curricular, even though sports fees are included in their annual university fees.

MUSLIM NEWS wishes to support SACOS and its president on this highly principled stand.

Since the promulgation of the Separate Universities Education Act of 1959 not one university in this country can claim to be 'open' or

'non-racial'. Clearly there are in South Africa four types of ethnic institutions of learning called universities. These are white universities (UCT, Wits, Stellenbosch, etc); a Coloured university (UWC), an Indian University (UDW), and African universities (Turfloop, Fort Hare, etc).

All these 'universities' are racist institutions whether by design or decree.

The shocked exasperation of the 'liberals', who failed to appreciate the point made by SACOS through its president, is motivated by what they called the short-sightedness of SACOS to allow normal situations to exist in South Africa and thereby to prove that all people can co-exist 'normally' under such circumstances.

SACOS and all civilised people all over the world do not need such abnormally normal situations to exist to prove anything. One could go to any University anywhere in the world to prove that not only people of different races but also of different nationalities co-exist peacefully on campuses and with pride in their alma mater.

South Africa must be unique in the world today — this is the only country where your race and ethnic background are considered before your academic merit as entrance qualifications to a university. Persons of a 'disqualified race' can only be

admitted to a university on special permission by the Nationalist minister concerned and to a faculty and a degree course not offered by the special racial university of their particular race qualification. And then only if other persons of the 'qualified race' did not fill the class for that year. Only after all these considerations are satisfied is selection done on academic merit.

Any person, under these circumstances, who can still feel that the attendance at university is a 'normal' occurrence must be either criminally naive or totally dishonest.

No anti-racist should be able to tolerate his own presence at any university in South Africa.

We appreciate that people have to attend institutions of higher learning in order to equip themselves for the rigours of life. We accept that their attendance at such institutions is only under the most vehement protest and that they only accept the academic knowledge and nothing else.

We accept that sport is not an absolute necessity of life, but that education is. While students are forced to accept their education at such apartheid institutions, they are in no way forced to use the sports facilities.

It is an undeniable fact sport facilities at such institutions are used to a large extent to lend credibility to the institution. As examples one need only quote the swimming bath at UWC which we believe to be the only Olympic-size pool available to so-called coloureds in their area; the other such outstanding facility is the tartan track at Turfloop which is the only one of its kind for blacks in that area. These facilities are not being used by anti-racist sportmen because its very foundation is separatism, exclusivism and racism.

Students at universities who are involved in non-racial sports follow sporting careers off the campuses and independent of the universities.

TRANSKEI'S FIRST PRIORITY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 12 Mar 81 p 7

[Text]

UMTATA. — Agriculture in Transkei faced grave problems and formidable constraints, according to a report at a seminar on development and planning held in Umtata yesterday.

The report, by Rawkins Associates, a team of consultants appointed by the Transkei Government to report on the Transkei's economy, says the territory's economy is based on agriculture.

Presenting the report, Mr F S Robinson of the Department of Town and Regional Planning at the University of Natal, said Transkei was a small country of considerable diversity.

"It's potential for development is limited and lies mainly in agriculture, hydro-power and tourism. However, agriculture, on which the economy is based, faced grave problems and formidable constraints.

"The pitfalls are so numerous that success here will be most difficult to achieve, yet all other forms of development will be placed at risk if agriculture does not advance.

"To this end, the main recommendations are to increase agricultural productivity, embark on a programme of rural development, create small rural service centres, decentralise decision making and approach planning systematically.

"Further objectives would be to achieve equality in the geographic distribution of essential services and, finally, but of particular importance, to motivate the people of Transkei to get more involved in planning their own future," he said.

Mr Robinson said Transkei had a big and diversified agricultural potential. A comparatively high proportion of the country received sufficient rainfall to permit an intensive form of agriculture (about 40 percent as compared with 10 percent for South Africa, and 20 percent for Zimbabwe).

A further 30 percent had a high enough rainfall for semi-intensive agriculture, whilst even the remaining 16 percent still received sufficient rainfall to be capable of semi-extensive agriculture. — Sapa.

ALUMINUM COMPANY EXPANSION PLANS DESCRIBED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES-BUSINESS TIMES in English 1 Mar 80 p 3

[Article by Andrew McNulty]

[Text]

ALUSAF, the Richards Bay aluminium producer, is awarding contracts valued at some R120-million to local companies for work on its R230-million Richigata expansion that will double present production of 88 000 tons a year.

Contracts worth R30-million have already been awarded and site clearing and civil engineering work is progressing fast.

Orders worth some R30-million for further engineering and steel erection will soon be announced.

This was disclosed to Business Times by Abie van den Berg, chairman of the Industrial Development Corporation.

He revealed also that plans for a third expansion of Alusaaf are well under way.

The third phase will provide a further 88 000 tons a year, bringing the total to 264 000 tons and will cost about R230-million in today's money.

This phase will be aimed entirely at export markets.

"That there will be a third phase is a fact.

"The timing will depend partly on availability of skilled manpower, but mainly on the state of world markets.

"It looks most likely that a decision will be made three years from now and the new production will start about 30 months after that.

"But it could be sooner or a bit longer," he says.

At the present Alcan contract prices received by Alusaaf for exports of \$1 750/t — which are

currently depressed and would rise substantially in the next five years — additional foreign exchange earnings for South Africa would be more than R120-million.

Mr van den Berg adds that Alusaaf is heading for self-sufficiency of raw materials.

Local production of coal-sourced anodes and flixes derived from gases from the Trionf fertiliser complex is already possible.

Production of the only outstanding material, alumina, will be economic by about 1988 and will require very substantial investment in plant and mining capacity.

Commissioning of Alusaaf's second phase, Richigata, is expected to start in December 1981 or January 1982, possibly a world-record period of only 17 months from the time agreement was reached to dismantle, ship and re-establish at Richards Bay the Nippon Light Metals (NLM) of Niigata smelter from Japan.

First of ten shiploads of a total 130 000 t of machinery and equipment arrived in Richards Bay last week.

Johannes Diemont, deputy managing director of Alusaaf,

says all of the Richigata's initial 1982 production will be exported, largely to the Far East, but exports from the second phase will decline steadily as domestic demand rises.

Based on average GNP growth of 3%, local demand for aluminium is expected to rise at about an annual 2%.

SOEKOR TO ACQUIRE TWO LARGE OFFSHORE OIL RIGS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 12 Mar 81 p 5

[Text]

TWO large offshore oil rigs, able to operate in depths in excess of 500 m, are to be built for Soekor's oil search off the South African coast.

A spokesman for Soekor said in Johannesburg yesterday a worldwide shortage of offshore drilling units had resulted in escalating hire charges and a reluctance on the part of rig owners to enter into long-term agreements.

"In order to ensure continuity in the search for oil off South Africa — after considering various alternatives — Soekor has negotiated a contract with an international drilling contractor for the long-term hire of two drilling units which will be built for delivery late in 1982 or early 1983," the spokesman said.

Although he would not say where the rigs would be built, it is understood that

the two units will be assembled in a Japanese yard.

"Both units will be of the most modern design and capable of operating in water depths of up to, and with minor additions, in excess of 500 metres in very severe water and sea conditions."

Meanwhile, it is believed that a third rig, the "Sedco J", was to have arrived in South African waters later this year, but it is still being hired by another party off the Ivory Coast.

Mr Nigel Wood, NRP spokesman on energy, said that the news that Soekor was to spend \$20 million on two deep sea oil rigs specially designed for South African conditions was most welcome.

"The latest drilling results announced earlier this year indicate highly promising signs, which are worth pursuing further even at high costs," Mr Wood said.

EFFECT OF COAL EXPORTS ON INTERNAL ECONOMY DISCUSSED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Mar 81 p 24

[Article by Daan de Kock]

[Text]

AN INCREASE in the export of coal from the approved level of 44 million tons a year to say 70 million tons a year will have an insignificant effect on the life cycle of supplies to the inland market, particularly if these arise from reserves classified as low grade.

Mr S P Ellis, general manager of General Mining Union Corporation's coal division, said this at the Saffo seminar "Energy Exports in the 80's" yesterday.

He said export policy should be formulated in terms of reserve exploitation strategy and an inland energy pricing strategy, rather than in terms of some absolute reserve limit.

He pointed out that last year coal exports earned South Africa R687 million, placing it high in the league with gold, diamonds and platinum as a earner of foreign exchange.

Mr Ellis said: "Should we wish to maintain inland prices in real terms in the future, we have to find another route to obtain real term price increases, and

this is where the export of coal plays a major role."

High export prices can justify higher extraction methods and can stabilise inland coal prices, he said.

He also pointed out that in the longer term, price increases will be required by the coal industry for two reasons. First, higher extraction methods require more costly mining methods and the justification for these is dependent upon higher revenues from sales products.

Second, higher prices in real terms will also be required as the more easily accessible, higher quality reserves become depleted. The burden of these higher prices can be shifted from the inland market to the export market through a sound national coal export policy.

He also asked for a change in the method of allocation of export contracts. "Further export allocations should be granted to prospective exporters with a view to distributing total export allocations in proportion to their supplies to the inland market. In this way the financial benefits from exports and the burden of subsidising inland coal prices can be equitably distributed within the coal industry," he said.

BRIEFS

MUSLIM OPPOSITION TO HOMELANDS--The Nkandla Muslim Jamaat, representing Muslims in the Zululand area of Natal, has come out against the concept of separate 'homelands' or 'bantustans' for a particular ethnic group. The rejection came in a letter sent by the Jamaat to the chairman of the Buthelezi Commission of Enquiry into the drought that hit the Zululand and other parts of Natal last year. The letter states: 'So far as the sub-division of Natal and KwaZulu is concerned (as proposed by the Commission of Enquiry), we must emphatically reject such a procedure if it is based on racial considerations. We, in Islam, know of no race except the human race. This does not mean that the country may not be sub-divided for economic, topographical or geographic reasons.' Since the 'homelands' policy of the Government is based purely on racial grounds, and to serve the economic and other interests of a particular race group, the Nkandla Muslim Jamaat has made it clear that they do not want to be part of that policy, which is anti-Islamic. [Text] [Capetown MUSLIM NEWS in English 27 Feb 81 p 20]

REGISTERED VOTERS TOTALS--Altogether 2 290 599 voters have been registered for the April 29 general election. Of these the Transvaal have 1 161 580, the Cape Province 686 721, the OFS 178 099, and Natal 264 199. The official all-party nomination courts will sit on March 23. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Mar 81 p 3]

CRITICISM OF SOWETO COUNCIL--Mr Isaac Buthelezi, a member of the Soweto Council, is thinking of resigning his seat because he feels it is ineffective in solving residents' problems. "The council has become a one-man show and I am being labelled a rabble-rouser by the chairman for opposing him when most councillors approve whatever he wants done," he said. Mr David Thebehali is chairman of the Soweto Council. Mr Buthelezi, a cousin of the KwaZulu Chief Minister, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, is one of the fiery speakers in the Soweto Council. He said his gradual loss of interest in the council was because, out of 30 members, only about 10 were regular contributors to discussions. Mr Buthelezi said the trouble with the Soweto Council is that its members are mostly people in humble financial circumstances who need the R300 monthly allowance they get from the West Rand Administration Board for being on the council. [Lawrence Mayekiso] [Excerpts] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Mar 81 p 5]

INDIAN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN--The Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr Chris Heunis, last night announced the appointment of Mr J.B. Patel as a member of the executive committee of the South African Indian Council, as well as chairman of that committee. In a statement in Pretoria last night, he said the first meeting of the new council would start on March 16. Mr Patel, a Durban attorney, has been a member of the council for many years and was the chairman of the Natal Standing Committee of the SAIC. In December last year, Mr Heunis announced the names of 15 people he had nominated as members of the SAIC.--Sapa [Text] (Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 11 Mar 81 p 5)

POLICE RESIGNATIONS--Cape Town--Four hundred policemen--200 a month--have resigned from the force so far this year. In 1980, 2 000 men left--166 a month. The deputy Commissioner of Police, Lieutenant-General F.L. Engels, disclosed the number of resignations on Friday night at an awards ceremony at Bishop Lavis. Gen Engels told the audience--honouring two policemen who had achieved the highest academic results in the annual police examinations--that many members of the SAP were lured away from the force by the private sector. But while the SAP continued to experience a serious manpower drain, the force now found itself with a number of highly qualified policemen, including "doctors and lawyers and others among our ranks--a situation we would not have believed possible five years ago," Gen Engels said.--Sapa [Text] (Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Mar 81 p 11)

NUCLEAR POWER GENERATION--There should be no delay in the fullest use of uranium for electricity generation in South Africa wherever economically justifiable, said the president of the Atomic Energy Boards, Dr J.W.L. de Villiers. He pointed out that at present there is an imbalance in the utilisation of our two biggest energy reserves--coal and uranium. But this is attributable to sound economic reasons--the cost of generating electricity by pithead stations in places like the Eastern Transvaal is still relatively low by world standards. The only place where nuclear power compares favourably is in places like the Western Cape. He pointed out that if inflationary trends continue, the higher capital costs of nuclear power as compared with conventional power will naturally cede a cost advantage to coal. One should, however, expect that the price of coal and uranium will also rise in these circumstances. The cost of nuclear power is however, very much less dependent on the price of uranium than of conventional power on the price of coal, he said. Nuclear energy could thus significantly augment our coal requirements for the generation of electricity. He also said that coal is an important raw material for the chemical industry, and at present our only indigenous resource for the production of liquid fuels. [Text] (Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 13 Mar 81 p 24)

CHEMICAL PLANT IN NATAL--Anikem, the speciality chemical manufacturing company, has commissioned the Southern Hemisphere's first acrylamide monomer plant in Natal at a cost of R3-million. This was announced yesterday by chairman Lloyd Palmer of Chicago, at the opening of Anikem's new R2-million headquarters at Spartan, Kempton Park. Anikem is an 11-year-old joint venture between AECI and Nalco Chemical Company of the United States which produces a range of some 250 speciality chemicals for combating corrosion and scale and for water purification and effluent treatment. The new acrylamide monomer plant, situated at Umbogintwini on the South Coast, is of considerable strategic importance to the South African mining industry being used to manufacture a range of polyacrylamides, primarily applied as a

flocculant in water clarification, Mr Palmer said. As these flocculants are vital to production processes in the coal, gold, uranium and base mineral mining industries, South Africa will now be completely independent of the vagaries of erratic overseas sources of this raw material. In full production, the plant will eventually save this country some R6-million a year in foreign exchange. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Mar 81 p 19]

GOLD SALES CUTBACK--South Africa held back a considerable amount of its gold production in February probably because of the lower gold price. Despite this there was only a small increase in gold reserves in monetary terms. Figures released by the South African Reserve Bank indicates that the gold holding rose by R1,1 million to R4 309 million. The physical gold holding increase by 56 613 ounces and stood at the end of the month at 12,3 million compared with 19,2 million the the previous month. The gold reserves for February have been valued at R351,01 a fine ounce compared with the valuation of R352,55 a fine ounce at the end of January. Total foreign assets rose R14,2-million in February to R5 933,8-million from the previous R4 891,2-million in January. Bills fell R 24,43-million to R38,95-million from R63,81-million. Investments rose R900 000 to R36,40-million while other assets rose R166,34-million to R649,49-million from R483,14-million in January. The gold content fell to 85,58 percent in February from 88,08 percent in January, while the ratio of gold reserves to liabilities decreased to 67,4 percent from 71,8 percent. [By Daan de Kock] [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Mar 81 p 19]

CSO: 4420

REPORTAGE ON ASSEMBLY DEBATE, SPEECHES

Assembly Accused of Squandering Funds

Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 3 Mar 81 p 81

[Pat Mnumalo reports from Parliament]

[Text] Members of the House of Assembly were stunned yesterday when another member accused the house of squandering government funds allocated to Parliament.

The member, Prince Maquba, did not elaborate. He regretted that the Prime Minister, Prince Mabandla under whose port-folio Parliament falls, had not arrived at the time he made the allegation.

When the Minister for Works, Power and Communications, Dr. V.S. Leibrandt pointed out that although the Prime Minister was not there all the questions asked up to that point could be easily answered by other Cabinet Ministers, Prince Maquba immediately jumped to his feet and declared: "The mere fact that we are discussing this vote in the absence of the Prime Minister who is leader of this Parliament means we are stealing the public money."

The Prime Minister entered the Chambers as Prince Maquba sat down after making his remarks. Apparently the Prime Minister was not informed about the question, as he did not refer to it when he replied to the rest of the questions asked.

Another member, Mr. E.P. Mamba, suggested that certain sums of money allocated to Parliament should be diverted to other Ministries because the activities to which they were being allocated each year have never been purchased or attended to.

Making his contribution to the allocation proposed for the Parliament hear, Mr. M.M. Ginindza expressed concern at past experiences where members during Parliamentary sittings came to Parliament, but only to find that they could not do any business relating to their Ministries.

Mr. Ginindza said his concern was that although members could not do any business in Parliament on such occasions, they got all their financial entitlements, travelling allowances.

Replying to the queries, the Prime Minister expressed his sincere appreciation to what he called the concern demonstrated by members towards their duties as part of government.

Defending the Ministers, he pointed out that in most cases their absence from Parliament was not deliberate, but usually due to pressure of work.

Speaking under the Cabinet Head, Mr S.M. Dlamini asked the Prime Minister why Permanent Secretaries remained in their positions forever although they are political appointees like Ministers.

He said he was asking this question because some may be retiring because of things they may have done and fear that these may soon come to the surface.

He also charged that some of them may be retiring even before they have paid back funds they have squandered.

He made a special plea to the Prime Minister to draw the attention of the King to the prolonged absence of a Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Tourism.

He said the absence of this officer was doing a lot of harm to the country's economy in view of that Ministry's importance in the Kingdom's development.

He finally proposed that the Ministry's proposed allocation be deferred until a permanent Secretary has been appointed there. He expressed the fear that this money may be misappropriated in the absence of this officer.

In reply the Prime Minister said Permanent Secretaries were appointed on merit and pointed out that if their performances were not satisfactory they were eventually dismissed.

He said the prolonged absence of a Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Mines was receiving his urgent attention. All necessary investigations, he said, were made to ensure that retiring officers did not owe government money.

Defence Vote

Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 6 Mar 81 p 1

[Text]

IN THE HOUSE of Assembly yesterday Members were for the first time allowed to debate the proposed defence force vote, amid strong opposition from other members who argued that by so doing the House would let out the country's secrets.

The first objection came from Prince Maguba who said there was no need to debate the vote. Prince Maguba rose on a point of order as another back-bencher Mr. S.S. Mokgokong was already asking questions on the vote.

The Deputy Speaker, Mr. P. R. Foreyth-Thompson who was on the chair, pointed out that as the vote was in the estimate he saw no reason why it could not be debated.

The Chairman then called upon the Prime Minister, Prince Mahandla to clarify the position.

While agreeing that defence department was a sensitive one, the Prime Minister, however pointed out that members could ask questions of a general nature.

In reply to some of the questions, the Prime Minister disclosed that there were Swazis who could now fly the army's aircraft. The Prime Minister avoided a number of questions asked by members concerning the army, but he freely answered others.

For instance, he told the house that members of the defence force found drunk received severe punishment, and that soldiers still engaged in farming.

Mr. S. M. Dlamini could not understand why there was a blanket ban on auditing public funds allocated to the Defence Department.

MP Mixed Up, Says Minister

THE MINISTER for Finance, Mr. J.L.F. Simelane, reacted strongly to an allegation in Parliament by Mr. S.M. Dlamini last week that R29 million of government funds has disappeared through misappropriation.

Mr. Simelane said in Parliament that the member was mixing up money lost through misappropriation with money spent without proper authority but on approved projects.

"There is certainly no accuracy in this calculation, which is to be regretted as it

gives the public a false impression of what has happened, and throws doubt on the H. a. Member's arithmetic," said the Minister.

He stated that the reason why the budget cannot be balanced from current revenue was that expenditure was too high.

"In other words the productive sectors of the economy are unable to finance all the needs of the nation, in infrastructure and in services," explained Mr. Simelane.

DIRECTOR EXPLAINS SBS ROLE

Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 11 Mar 81 p 2

[Text]

DIRECTOR for Broadcasting and Information Services Mr. J.B.S. Vilakazi says his Department is a tool for national development, which the government of Swaziland requires, without transgressing its own policy guideline, to inform, educate and entertain the public as well as provide effective support for government's development efforts.

Mr. Vilakazi was speaking at a seminar on "Sound Broadcasting in Swaziland" held at the Kwaluseni Campus of the University College of Swaziland.

Mr. Vilakazi also explained that at present the station was not broadcasting throughout the country due to a number of factors, one of them being that the station is still undergoing a process of expansion, and also that there is shortage of trained personnel and training facilities for the present staff which is under-manned.

Mr. Vilakazi however, told the audience that in spite of all the difficulties, the station will be heard all over the country before the end of July this year.

Building

Mr. Vilakazi also informed the audience that five sub-stations are now under construction, and in fact the buildings are already complete, and the installation of machinery is now under way at Kelly Farm, north-west of Mbabane, Bulembu, Hlanikulu, Loyoba, Sitsi and Mangweni on the Hospital Hill.

As soon as the installation of these is completed, the whole country would receive full coverage by S.B.S.

Speaking at the same occasion, were Mr. M.S. Magongo and Mr. S.H. Black, Deputy Head of Information and Senior Technical Officer respectively. Mr. Magongo spoke on the role played by the Information Service in the development of the country, and Mr. Black spoke mainly on the engineering and technical aspect of the broadcasting department.

BRIEFS

KIDNAPPING CASE--Swaziland believes that the South African refugee teacher who was kidnapped from St. Joseph's School at Mzimofu near Manzini about three weeks ago is in South Africa, according to reliable sources. The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in Mbabane, which is responsible for refugees, is reported to have sent a letter to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Mbabane to be forwarded to Pretoria asking for the return to Swaziland of the refugee, Mr. Joe Pillay. Attempts to establish whether the diplomatic note has already been sent to Pretoria by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were unsuccessful. [Except] [Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 11 Mar 81 p 1]

CONCERN OVER RACISM--Christians in South Africa are becoming increasingly disturbed in heart by the racial policy in their country, says the Anglican Bishop of Swaziland, The Right Reverend Bernard Mkhabela. He writes in the Swaziland Diocese's latest newsletter that this Lent concerned Christians will spend hours in prayer and study in the belief that the Lord God will make them instruments of his peace, channels of peaceful change in South Africa. "We thank God that our land is not ruled by violence, fear and racialism which rules South Africa. Yet we know only too well that the shadow of South Africa and its sin falls darkly across us, a near and small neighbour," says Bishop Mkhabela. Swaziland, he continues, is not completely free from the sin which the Swazis see so clearly beyond her borders. "We listen daily to stories and accusations about the misappropriation of public funds." Bishop Mkhabela says it is not only in the high places that trust is abused. "The disease is there in our families, in our churches, in our schools and in our community organisations. Jealousy, greed, pride and love of power result from our failures to love God...." he says. He hopes that Christians in Swaziland will this Lent spend hours together, like their South African brothers and sisters, in prayer, study and searching. [Text] [Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 11 Mar 81 p 2]

TECHNOLOGY LINKS WELCOMED--The Deputy Minister for Education, Mr. W.M. Magongo, says cooperation among African states will greatly strengthen self-reliance and consequently reduce dependence on developed countries. He was deputising for the Deputy Prime Minister, Senator Ben Nsibandze at a closing ceremony of the "International Labour Organisations tour on Science and Technology conference" held at the Yen Saan Hotel. Mr. Magongo said the collective approach by African states was welcomed in the area of science and technology where Africa has yet to experience a breakthrough in the application of science to local technologies and

adaptation of foreign technologies. ILO's representative, Mr. Johannes Mesfin, a consultant based in Lesotho who also heads the appropriate technology unit in Maseru thanked the Swaziland government for having allowed the conference to take place. From Swaziland, the tour went to Zimbabwe for a similar mission. [Text] [Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 11 Mar 81 p 2]

CHOLERA BACKLASH--A Member of Parliament has told the House of Assembly that the recent outbreak of cholera has demonstrated that this country cannot stand for three months on its own without agricultural produce from South Africa. Mr. Mahefane Shongwe wondered what the Ministry of Agriculture has been doing during the past 13 years of independence to ensure that the nation produced enough food to feed itself. He regretted what he regarded as the Ministry's failures although it has experts, and pointed out that it was now being overtaken by Tibiyo Taka Ngwane. "Is this not poor administration..." he asked. Mr. Shongwe wanted to know if the frozen fish produce now being sold in the Kingdom's shops was that produced locally by the Ministry of Agriculture. He also asked how much the Ministry has made from the sale of fish. Another member, Mr. E.P. Mamba, challenged the Minister for Agriculture, Mr. A.K. Hlophe to arrange visits for members of Parliament to the Rural Development areas. Mr. Mamba recalled that during the past two years, the Minister had informed the house that grain storage tanks were being built in the country. But Mr. Mamba told the House that one day he visited one place where the storage tanks were supposed to be being built--at Luyengo--and found nothing there. Mr. Ben Bennet appealed to the Minister to help farmers get fertilizers without having to travel long distances now that the Central Co-operative Union seem no longer in operation. Another member, Mr. S.M. Dlamini, charged that money allocated to CCU was immediately being misappropriated. He said ever since its establishment this union's funds have been misappropriated. Praise for the CCU came from Mr. M.M. Ginindza who stated that its operation was being hampered by affiliated co-operatives who failed to return funds loaned to them by the union. [Text] [Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 11 Mar 81 p 1]

CSO: 4420

EYADEMA: PEASANTS AGAIN EXEMPTED FROM TAX

Lome LA NOUVELLE MARCHE in French 13 Jan 81 pp 3, 8

[Speech by President Eyadema: "Year Fourteen of National Liberation--President Eyadema in His Message to the Nation: Peasants Exempted From Civic Tax; Togo Will Continue Its Mission of Searching for Peace"]

[Excerpts] Satisfaction regarding the participation of active elements in strengthening the RPT [Rally of the Togolese People] and in our country's development; the RPT's daily confirmation as a genuine school for democracy; encouraging results recorded in the agricultural, industrial and commercial areas; a positive response to the appeal made to the people who run things in the economy to take part in the difficult but uplifting task of building our country--these were some of the observations made yesterday by the RPT's founding chairman and president of the republic. Army General Gnassingbe Eyadema, in his message to the nation on the occasion of the festivities marking the 14th anniversary of our national liberation.

In this message giving an overall assessment of the '4 years during which Togolese have learned to live together in unity, peace, and solidarity, the chief of state also acknowledged that there is still a long road to travel en route to our full development. So apart from exempting peasants once again from paying civic tax, this time for 1981, in order to encourage them to redouble their efforts, President Eyadema asks each Togolese to make personal efforts for the country's development.

These efforts fit in with government participation in the development process, a process which is particularly linked first of all to the objectives of our 4th Economic and Social Development Plan and finally, and above all, to the durability of peace and stability Togo has experienced for 14 years.

This peace and stability, to be sure, cannot be separated from the peace and stability of all countries, particularly countries in Africa. Everything must be done to preserve this peace and stability. Our country must hope for that, if not demand it, for the African continent.

Here is the chief of state's message to the nation in full:

Togolese men and women:

Just like every year, and in keeping with the tradition which holds throughout the world that individuals, families and people wish each other happiness and prosperity, I have first of all the pleasant duty of expressing my sincerest wishes for health, peace and happiness in 1981 to all my fellow countrymen living in Togo or overseas.

The RPT, a School For Democracy

The Rally of the Togolese People shows itself day after day to be a genuine school for democracy, a forum which allows the people to express themselves freely.

It is my pleasure here to publicly express my gratitude to the dynamic and realistic president of the National Assembly and to all its deputies for positive results chalked up during this first year of assembly activities.

The government along with the Rally of the Togolese People has been carrying out activities in all sectors during the year which has just ended. These activities are aimed at the advancement and welfare of Togolese citizens despite an extremely bad set of economic circumstances.

Peasants Again Exempted

With regard to our Green Revolution policy, the two consciousness-raising campaigns and the steps taken for the benefit of our brothers and sisters in the countryside to increase output should safeguard our country from shortage in staple foodstuffs.

Since I am aware of the efforts being required from our toiling masses and in particular from our brothers in the countryside, and in spite of extremely strained economic circumstances, I am once again deciding to exempt our peasants from paying civic tax for 1981.

The sacrifice involved in this which the nation as a whole has agreed to make should stimulate peasants to redouble their efforts to successfully carry out the production programs which we have settled on.

In the industrial sector, the CIMAO [Cement Company of West Africa] furnaces have been lit and will be formally opened day after tomorrow. Likewise the Lama-Kara Textile Complex will be starting up soon, and I do not want to forget to mention the work on the expansion of the Benin Brewery and Togo Cement Plant (CIMTOGO) which is moving right along.

Finally, the commercial and service sector has also contributed to our economy's progress just as we had wished, in spite of prices spiralling up and the strict credit policy framework imposed by international economic circumstances.

Togolese men and women:

Our fourth 5-Year Economic and Social Development Plan is starting in 1981. The objectives marked out in this 4th Plan range from adding to communications receiving facilities, to improving social amenities, to industrial installations for processing our natural resources.

This new advancement effort will cost an estimated 250 billion for the 5-year period, compared with estimated costs for the first three plans of 28 billion, 75 billion and 250 billion respectively. The new plan rightly urges prudence, moderation and realism, taking into account the economic difficulties all countries are having and the relatively poor rates of advance in industrialized or wealthy countries. It will take a sustained effort by the entire community for the objectives of this 4th Plan to be accomplished.

9631

CSO: 4400

REVIEW OF AGRICULTURAL SITUATION, PRODUCTION STATISTICS

Lome LA NOUVELLE MARCHE in French 24 Jan 81 p 5

[Article by Barray Amann: "The Bet Will Be Won"]

[Excerpt] Togo, a country with an agricultural calling, could be self-sufficient in the area of agricultural production before long if all the efforts which Army Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema's government is making to promote our agriculture are actively supported. In fact, thanks to the great number of measures decided on by the chief of state for the benefit of rural areas, our agriculture is experiencing great development.

After the erratic trends at the beginning of the time independence was gained, the political authorities realized that our country, 80 percent of the population of which is rural, must rely on agriculture as the basis of its economy.

For the country as a whole abounds in fertile land, only 11 percent of which is under cultivation.

In Order to Be Self-sufficient in Food

Emphasis has first of all been put on the expansion of food crops with the "Green Revolution" launched 3 years ago, which is making the peasants aware of the need to increase crop areas and to diversify crops. As a result, the production of yams, which was 394,000 tons in 1977-1978--a bad rainfall year, it is true--should exceed 524,000 tons for 1978-1979. Cassava production should go from 319,000 to 370,000 tons, rice production from 16,000 to 17,000 tons and millet/sorghum from 119,000 to 136,000 tons. Togostain is playing a very important part at the marketing stage.

Cocoa bean and green coffee exports made up 25.8 percent and 14.0 percent respectively of the total. That shows how important those crops are for farmer income and for what the government has in the way of foreign exchange.

The economic life of a coffee tree is around 20 years and a cacao tree lasts 25 to 30 years.

Togolese farmers still resist the idea of replacing the trees in their plantations, while the old coffee plantations are from 35 to 40 years old, and the Niaculi variety is not yielding more than 400 kg per hectare. By comparison improved Robusta of the same species supplies up to 2000 kg per hectare. Cocoa production is stagnating between 14,000 and 16,000 tons. It was 14,117 tons in 1976-1977 and 16,686 tons in 1977-1978. Coffee production sometimes varies: it was 10,480 tons in 1976-1977 and 4,707 tons in 1977-1978.

Cash Crops and Replanting Programs

Current policy is aimed at careful maintenance of existing plantations and most of all at renewing the oldest ones with more productive varieties. Therefore, the National Society for the Renewal and Development of Togolese Cocoa and Coffee Resources (SNCC) was set up and given the responsibility of coordinating development operations. The French Institute of Coffee and Cocoa (IFCC), which specializes in agronomic research in that area, is providing assistance on the spot.

As for cotton, it is grown throughout Togo except in the southern part of the country. Cotton production, 10,736 tons in 1975, has experienced a catastrophic decline from year to year until it was 4,517 tons in 1978.

Increasing Cotton Production and Palm Trees

The Togolese Cotton Company (SOTOCO), set up in 1974, was meant to be responsible for cotton production in general. Its rural development plan of cotton zones over the period 1977-1981 aims to bring cotton production up to 30,000 tons in 1981.

The National Palm Tree Plantation and Palm Oil Resources Development Company (SONAPI), set up in 1978, is charged with implementing programs for developing palm groves with select trees and programs for renewing cocoa plantations. The area of selected palm tree cultivation was 4,900 hectares in 1975 and was meant to be up to 8,200 hectares in 1980. However, the yield from palm trees fell off spectacularly: it was 7,000-8,000 tons in 1976 but only 1,336 tons in 1976-1977 and 828 tons in 1977-1978.

In 1977-1978 peanuts and karite nuts had the most resistance to the drought. Peanuts at 715 tons about made it back to their 1974-1975 level (723 tons). Karite nuts at 6,709 tons surpassed the 1975-1976 level (5,395 tons).

9511

CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

COUNTERFEITERS ARRESTED IN LOME--After a long and meticulous investigation, the Togolese police succeeded in arresting two groups of counterfeiters operating in the interior of Togo as well as in Lome. The investigation led to the discovery of counterfeit 10,000-franc notes and Malian franc notes all of which added up to 71,370,000 CFA francs. The police were alerted by the appearance of great numbers of counterfeit banknotes in markets in the country. After investigation, they managed to arrest the counterfeiters whose mastermind is a 76-year old Ghanaian answering to the name of Komi Phanuel Dzanku. He resides in Togo under cover of being an herbalist. The 23 counterfeiters are of Togolese, Ghanaian and Nigerian nationality. Their names are: Komi Phanuel Dzanku, Boukari Aleheri El Hadj, Atchou Morera, Ali Tagba Abdou El Hadj, Issouf Watara, Yoma Djato Amama, Combey Comtiote, Alassani Elo, Moumouni Bouraima, Khalifa Matchi, Bozi Kalifa, Inoussa Assoumana, Atsou De Panti, Adamou Aliou, Fousseni Alassani, Salao Nassirou, Messan Kodjo Tay, Iliassou Soumane, Dodzi Jean Youmenou, Ayaovi Christophe Adonou, Kokou Goumide, Messah James Akoto, and Ibrahim Biga. [Text] [Lome LA NOUVELLE MARCHE in French 21 Jan 81 p 4] 9631

CSO: 4400

ZAMBIAN DIPLOMAT ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL SCANDAL

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 12 Mar 81 p 1

[Text]

FIRST secretary at the Zambian embassy in Bonn, West Germany, Mr Dick Litana was yesterday named in Parliament as one of the leaders allegedly involved in an international scandal in which they were demanding pay-offs on aid intended for Zambia.

The alleged scandal was disclosed by Kawambwa MP Mr Titus Mukupo, who claimed that Mr Litana and other leaders he did not name were demanding a percentage on aid negotiated for the country, including the K400 million "operation food programme."

Mr Mukupo informed Parliament that Mr Litana had been working with associates "here at home who are very eminent".

But he was reluctant to name them as he did not want to involve "too many names" unless he was pressed by the Government to do so.

He told a hushed House that he had all the documents "in my briefcase" concerning the scandal and the names of the top leaders both in the Party and its Government who were allegedly involved.

Mr Mukupo said the international financier involved was being detained in Zambia because he asked to be paid.

The financier had worked closely with the Government over a long period but Mr Mukupo was reluctant to name him.

He said the man would be deported tomorrow.

"He now has a sword of Damocles hanging over his neck and will be deported."

The scandal was disclosed during a debate on the estimates of expenditure for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Earlier Mr Mukupo refused to name Mr Litana saying while an officer from the London mission had been recalled following his implication in an international gun-running scandal, there was another involved in an even more serious case.

The officer had been using an international financier or broker not only to arrange development finance for the country but also for his companies and associates.

"Men who are subject to the Leadership Code, men who are of or above the Cabinet rank. This is a serious affair," Mr Mukupo said as backbenchers shouted "shame, shame".

"This young man has a big associate. The financier who I could refer to as a financial negotiator was asked by the Government to help in the financing of the K400 million agricultural development project."

The financier had so far managed to secure just under 25 per cent of the K400 million, most of it in French francs.

"This diplomat is in Europe. His VIP associates whose names I have but who I won't name now, have demanded a benefit of five per cent of that amount," Mr Mukupo said.

This was a substantial amount of money because it represented K465 000.

At this point Prime Minister **Mundia** raised a point of order asking chairman of the committee of supply and deputy Speaker **Mr Raphael Chota** if the MP was in order not to give full facts on the case which would help the Government.

Mr Chota asked the Government to pay serious attention to the submission so that the House was not made to work backwards in future as had been in the **Tika** and **JAW** cases which he said were bitter experiences.

Minister of Information and Broadcasting **Mr Mark Tumbumba** asked **Mr Chota** if **Mr Mukupo** was in order not to name the people involved or where the transaction was organised or being organised.

Mr Chota then asked **Mr Mukupo** to name the country where the diplomat was based but not the people involved.

Mr Mukupo said if it was the wish of the Government to know all the details he had, it could find out from him in the main lobby.

"If not I can give the details now if I am pressurised."

But **Mr Chota** ruled that **Mr Mukupo** should only mention the country and he named the **Bonn** mission in West Germany.

He explained that the deals were arranged in **Paris** and **Lusaka**.

"But as for the names, I shall abide by the ruling of the Chair although I must point out that I have full documentation on the scandal."

Kapoche MP **Reverend Ben Zulu** asked **Mr Chota** why the MP should give facts to the Government outside the House when the matter was raised in the House.

Mr Chota said the MP would have time later to debate the issue fully. But as for giving the full details of the scandal, he explained that the nation must be protected because the issue at hand was a sensitive one.

"That is why some of the information should be given to the Chair or the Government," **Mr Chota** said.

Last night acting Foreign Affairs Minister **Mr Remmy Chisupa** said the London diplomat involved in the gun-running scandal had been suspended indefinitely.

SHAPI CHARGES DISCIPLINE LACKING IN THE PARTY

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 11 Mar 81 p 1

[Text]

MEMBER of the Central Committee for the Copperbelt Province, Mr Alex Shapi, yesterday charged that discipline was lacking in the Party and appealed to the Party Secretary-General, Mr Humphrey Mulemba, to instil a sense of discipline among leaders to rejuvenate the Party.

Introducing the Party Secretary General at a special provincial council meeting held at the Lowenthal Theatre, Mr Shapi said the Party needed to be rejuvenated so that it could be seen to play a vital role in the delivering of goods to the people.

He said that this need was being hampered by the lack of discipline which was inherent within the rank and file of the Party.

He said that he hoped that with his new appointment as Party Secretary-General, Mr

Mulemba would instil a sense of discipline among the leadership right from section to Central Committee level.

"Of late discipline has been lacking in the Party, we hope with your appointment you will instil a sense of discipline in the Party" Mr Shapi said.

Before being appointed Party Secretary-General Mr Mulemba was chairman of the appointments and disciplinary sub-committee of the Central Committee.

Mr Shapi told the Secretary-General that the Party organisation had become very difficult during the labour unrest.

He said that the Party leadership on the Copperbelt had reflected on the circumstances which led to the unrest and concluded that it was as a result of bad communications.

GOVERNOR TO MAKE FACT-FINDING TOUR OF FLOODED AREAS

Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 11 Mar 81 p 3

(Text)

KALOMO GOVERNOR. Mr Andrew Sibbuyu today starts a fact-finding tour of the flood hit areas in Chief Mukuni's area where people are threatened with famine because heavy rains have cut them off from the rest of the country.

According to senior Chief Mukuni's allegations at his palace near Livingstone last week, Mr Sibbuyu will be the third government official to visit some of these areas since independence.

The Chief reported that more than 3,000 villagers at Nakasota, Dwedwasi and other areas beyond Katapani had been at the mercy of the seasonal floods for many years without any help.

He attacked government officers who pretended to solve problems behind their desks without seeing the suffering of the people claiming that in some remote areas, he was the only authority known by the people.

Chief Mukuni also reported that many roads were impassable and he had to walk for thousands of kilometres to reach the people.

Asked what his office was doing about the chief's complaint, Mr Sibbuyu said yesterday that he was undertaking a tour with the chief which starts today until the end of the week to assess the actual situation before any action could be taken.

And people in Petake district have been asked to construct dams on self-help basis in order to have enough water for domestic purposes and for their livestock during the dry season, ZANA reports.

The district water affairs officer Mr Donald Chwama

said this when he visited Kanyanda dam, 12 km west of the boma which was damaged by heavy rains recently.

Mr Chwama told the villagers around the dam that they should not wait for the central government to repair the dams but that the people should repair the dam on self help basis.

The water affairs officer said unless villagers embarked on some of the development programmes on self-help basis, their areas would continue to lag behind as the central government could not afford to finance every project in the country.

He added that people should learn to be responsible for the development of their respective areas.

NCDP WORKING ON LONG-TERM MEASURES TO END GOODS SHORTAGES

Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 11 Mar 81 p 7

(Text)

THE National Commission for Development Planning is working out long-term measures aimed at eradicating the problem of shortages of essential commodities in the country.

National Commission for Development Planning minister, Mr Joshua Lumina could not say what these measures are but only hinted that "these are long-term measures which cannot be expected to end the shortages tomorrow."

He also pointed out that the measures could not bear any fruit if there was no improvement in the performance of para-statal organisations such as those falling under the Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation Limited (ZIMCO).

"We as a government are indeed worried at the level of management in some sectors of ZIMCO and we would like to see some improvement in the situation," said Mr Lumina.

The minister expressed the hope that there should be an improvement in the country's economy by next year.

"This country has abundant resources and a lot of development potential. That is why some of these problems like the fall in copper prices are only temporary setbacks. With concerted efforts and hard work by every one, the situation should change for the better by next year. We have a bright future ahead if we put our resources to good use," he said.

On the Third National Development Plan (TNDP), Mr Lumina said that some projects and programmes in the plan were being delayed from implementation due to the economic recession in the country.

"We are really worried about this. Some of the projects are not going according to schedule or as we expected them to. We, however, hope these problems are temporary and that the situation will improve soon," he said.

Mr Lumina said the economic recession which had hit the country had resulted in lack of foreign exchange which in turn resulted in the failure by companies to import raw materials needed to manufacture items.

"The scarcity of these raw materials means that products needed in carrying

out some of the projects cannot be produced," he added.

Mr Lumina singled out the construction of secondary schools which he said the Party and its Government had expected to put up in each of the country's provinces by now as one of the projects affected by the economic recession.

He said that although up to now, work had not started on any of these schools, it was the wish of the Party and its Government to start work on them as soon as possible.

The minister, speaking in an interview, said the shortage of essential commodities should also be looked at in the same context of lack of foreign exchange to import raw materials. But he also described the shortage of essential goods as a temporary problem.

MINISTER SAYS COTTON PRODUCTION AIDS RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 10 Mar 81 p 2

[Excerpt]

COTTON production in Zambia has contributed greatly to rural development, said Minister of Agriculture and Water Development Mr Unia Mwila yesterday.

He said development was more pronounced among the small-scale farmers, resulting in the establishment of the Lint Company of Zambia three years ago.

Mr Mwila was speaking at a handover ceremony of 15 trucks for Lintco to the Government by a representative of the European Economic Community (EEC) at the headquarters of Star Motors Commercial in Lusaka.

He told guests that nearly simultaneously with the setting up of Lintco, the Government and the EEC decided to launch a cotton development project.

The task of the project was to assist Lintco to achieve its goals by strengthening the key areas of its operations.

In cotton production this meant the establishment of a Lintco field extension service, training of staff and farmers in advanced cultivation practices

and farm management.

It also meant training of staff in the organisation of an efficient input supply system by providing the infrastructure and transport facilities.

"In the area of processing, the capacity of the ginneries at Lusaka and Chipata will be extended to meet the growing production," he said.

Mr Mwila emphasised that in general the cotton development project would assist Lintco in achieving one of its major tasks of increasing cotton production to the level of national self-sufficiency and to export the surplus.

The supply of 15 trucks worth K450,000 to the company was one of the programmes of the cotton development project.

Their major objective would be to distribute agricultural inputs even to the remotest cotton producing areas and to carry the seed cotton to depots where transporters would take them to the ginneries.

He thanked the commission for the lorries and Star Motors for hosting the ceremony. "And I wish Lintco the best of luck and success in operating these vehicles," he said.

Head of the EEC in Zambia Mr John Wallner said the handing over of the trucks cemented further the good relationship which existed between EEC and Zambia.

FAMINE STRUCK AREAS OF WESTERN PROVINCE FACE DRUG SHORTAGE

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 11 Mar 81 p 1

[Text]

PEOPLE in famine-hit Imusho and Sinjembela areas in the Western Province are dying of starvation and badly need medical attention.

Prime Minister Mundia said this in Lusaka yesterday when he met two French doctors who have volunteered to provide medical services in the two areas.

Dr Jose Pinna and Dr Michael Andre are from a French organisation — Doctors of the World — which offers free services to needy countries.

Mr Mundia said the two areas needed a lot of help. Any offers of assistance were highly appreciated.

"Some parts are cleared of landmines but a lot remains to be done. As the Namibia liberation war intensifies, South Africa attacks the people in these areas," he told the physicians.

He said starvation was prevalent and some schools were closed because of the situation in the two areas.

"We are working hard to remove the landmines, this is a continuous process because the battle for Namibia is not yet over. The children who are dying are obviously innocent because they do not under-

stand what is going on. Efforts to help them are greatly welcome," he said.

The Government, he said, was short of drugs and medical equipment and that it was a great relief for the two doctors to come with the items.

He informed the doctors the battle for Namibia would take a long time but it was Zambia's intention to help that country achieve her freedom.

Earlier, counsellor at the French embassy Mr Jean Michel, who introduced the doctors to the Prime Minister, said the Doctors of the World organisation was willing to bring more doctors and nurses to Zambia to work.

The organisation would send the medical staff with equipment, medicines and drugs. The staff were willing to serve wherever their services were required. Mr Michel said. —Zana/AFP

FIVE FOREIGN TRADE AGREEMENTS BECOME EFFECTIVE

Salisbury THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 6 Mar 81 p 10

(Text)

FIVE trade agreements, signed between July and December last year, came into effect on the first of this month. The agreements are between Zimbabwe and the governments of Romania, Bulgaria, Tanzania, Mozambique and Iraq.

The terms of the agreements accord each of the signatories "most-favoured-nation" status. Four of the five agreements are for five years, which extend automatically if both parties concur. The agreement with Mozambique is for two years, renewable for two-year periods.

The agreements deal not only with access to the national products of the signing countries but also contain provisions for the promotion of trade. These encourage commercial contacts between economic bodies, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, and the exchange of trade and industrial representatives, as well as specialists in other fields.

In at least one agreement, the prices of goods to be supplied are to be established on the basis of free currency prices paid on the world market. In all agreements the payments are to be made in freely convertible currency.

The agreements do not constitute specific undertakings to supply the signing countries with goods and commodities. They do, however, list a number of items which may be exported.

Agricultural and mineral products naturally make up the bulk of the list of Zimbabwe's possible exports. Also included are

furniture, cement, clothing and footwear, and handicraft products. Both Tanzania and Mozambique may also receive cattle, used for planting, medical and pharmaceutical products, insecticides, paper and cardboard, and agricultural machinery.

In return, Zimbabwe may receive, from the five signing countries, the following:—

Mozambique— (oil (crude or refined), peanuts (fruits), pineapples, dehydrated coconut, cashew nuts, petrol, diesel oil, vegetable oil (safflower), rubber tyres and rubber tubes, iron manufactured in Zimbabwe), marble.

Tanzania— (oil and vital products, live food, rubber and rubber products, machinery, paper, silk, leather).

Romania— (tractors and combine harvesters, tractors, rural and wood-working machinery, tracked down kits for buses, vans and motor cars, aeroplanes, helicopters, and gliders, components for electronic, electrical and engineering industries, household electrical goods, telephone exchanges and central switch, hydraulic and electronic locomotives, radio and television components, motor cycles and bicycles, including spares and components, medical apparatus, mining equipment, including locomotives, agricultural chemicals, including fertilisers, pesticides, insecticides and herbicides, glassware and chinaware, jewelry, wine).

Bulgaria— (sowing and pressing machines, including parts, pumps, overhead and tower cranes, electrical pumps, machines for food processing and tobacco making, agricultural equipment, pump- and spraying machines, animal husbandry sheds from steel sheet and glass).

No list was given in the agreement with Iraq, but it is believed that the main item will be oil.

TRANSPORT PRIORITIES VITAL TO ECONOMY

Saleruby THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 6 Mar 81 p 11

[Text]

THE TOTAL value of Zimbabwe's crop exports could increase by 52% over the 1979 figure by 1982, but every effort must be made to ensure that the country's most valuable crops get priority on the national transportation system.

Zimbabwe's most valuable crops in 1981, in order of their earnings, are expected to be flue-cured tobacco, sugar, cotton lint, maize and coffee. Although all of these crops will earn millions of dollars in foreign exchange for Zimbabwe, a close examination of their value per tonne is revealing.

COFFEE

Green coffee beans, for example, are the most valuable commodity exported by Zimbabwe, if earnings per tonne are taken into account. Burley tobacco is second on the list, followed by flue-cured

tobacco, cotton lint and frozen beef (beef exports, however, will be severely constrained in the coming years until the national herd is rebuilt.) Sugar, which is second on the list of crops with the largest earnings is fourteenth on the list of value per tonne, and maize, which is fifth on the first list fares a poor nineteenth on the second.

The problem of getting the best value per tonne will be aggravated this year because of the expected bumper maize crop. If rail trucks are used to ferry maize to export markets at the expense of the more valuable crops, it will cost the country millions in foreigntaxchange.

BUMPER

Although much of the maize crop could be stored for as long as two years, there could be a major problem if there is another bumper crop next year.

Some of the pressure would have to be taken off the Grain Marketing Board storage facilities and, if this is entailed using more rail cars to transport maize for export, it could cost the country millions.

Given the Government's main objectives of increasing foreign-currency earnings, and helping labour-intensive industries while making the maximum use of the country's limited transport facilities, it makes sense that it should try to encourage high-value low-bulk export crops such as flue-cured tobacco, cotton lint and coffee.

This should not be done at the expense of food crops, however. But, once Zimbabwe's food needs have been determined and catered for, a determined effort should be made to marshal the country's resources to obtain a maximum amount of foreign exchange.

MINERAL EXPORTS FEEL IMPACT OF WORLD RECESSION

Gold Declines

Salisbury THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 6 Mar 81 p 10

[Text]

ALTHOUGH it is too early to make definite predictions, the total value of Zimbabwe's mineral exports may decrease in 1981. The main factor is the world recession, which has put a damper on the demand and prices of our minerals.

GOLD DECLINES

Even gold, at the moment Zimbabwe's largest mineral foreign-exchange earner, is on the decline. Some experts feel it will continue dropping to about US\$400 an ounce, while others believe that, given lower interest rates in the United States, the price should increase to about \$500 an ounce by the end of the year. But, if in any case, it will not reach the peak

achieved in 1980 unless there is a major world crisis.

Zimbabwe's major mineral exports, excluding gold, are asbestos, nickel, copper, coal and chrome. All these metals have experienced a decline in demand attributable to the world recession.

In the case of some minerals such as chrome and nickel the recovery could occur sooner. Ferro-chrome producers are reducing production and consumers are using up stocks to try to avoid high-interest rates and stocks are reported to be quite low. Nickel produced in Zimbabwe is of very high quality and, even during recessionary periods, there is a demand for it, albeit on a reduced scale.

The general consensus

among mineral experts is that there should be a slight firming of prices in the third and fourth quarters of 1981.

There should be a general firming throughout 1982 and some experts predict a strong demand in 1983.

TEMPORARY

Despite the recession, however, all of Zimbabwe's major mining concerns are continuing their exploration programmes. They feel that the recession will be temporary and they do not want to be caught unprepared when the recovery does occur. With more than 90% of Zimbabwe's mineral production exported, it is of the utmost importance that mineral sales be resumed at a high level as soon as possible.

First To Recover From Slump

Salisbury THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE In English 6 Mar 81 p 12

[Text]

ALTHOUGH the world economic recession has affected the demand for all of Zimbabwe's minerals, ferro-chrome could recover sooner than others.

The world's largest ferro-chrome producer, South Africa, has cut back production, and producers in Japan, the United States and Western Europe have followed suit in order to make their production equate with demand.

RATES

At the same time, high interest rates in countries like the United States and Britain have pushed consumers to use up their inventories. The result has been the lowest stockpiles in many years and, even a small increase in demand, could, in the present climate, have a disproportionate effect.

Some experts believe that, even with depressed demand, chrome prices will have to increase if the West is going to have access to

supplies outside of South Africa and Communist-bloc countries.

Nevertheless, Zimbabwe's chrome-ore and ferro-chrome exports are feeling the pinch of the world recession and other factors.

ORE

In the case of chrome ore, exports are virtually nil because of the shortage of rail trucks and the Government's wage policies, which supplies say, may have pushed chrome ore from Zimbabwe out of the market.

The world recession has forced stainless-steel producers, the largest users of ferro-chrome, cut back production by between 20 and 50%.

The problem, as far as ferro-chrome is concerned, has been aggravated by the fact that it is one of the few commodities sold through free negotiations. Because it reflects supply and demand so closely, prices have dropped along with quantities.

MINERAL RACE BY WEST MAY END SLUMP

Salisbury THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 6 Mar 81 p 1

[Text]

A GROWING realization by West that a "resources war" is near for Southern Africa's strategic minerals, could mark the end of the slump in Zimbabwe's mining sector. Without these minerals the West's security and life styles could be affected more than by an oil embargo.

Together the countries of this region produce most of the world's gold, diamonds, platinum, chrome, manganese and a significant share of its uranium, coal, nickel, copper, cobalt and numerous metals and minerals essential for industrial production in the developed world.

In fact, so essential are Southern African minerals to industrially developed economies that some analysts say that a coming race for possession of strategic minerals there might become as critical to developed nations as oil supplies have been in recent years.

American observers view this development with increasing alarm. One mineral industrialist calls Southern Africa "probably the most critical piece of ground as far as non-fuel minerals are concerned."

Others have gone further. United States Secretary of State Alexander Haig has spoken of "the era of the Resource War" as having started in anticipation of increasing competition with the Soviet Union for hegemony over sources of vital minerals.

And US Congressman Jim Santini, chairman of the House Mining Sub-Committee, has said the US has become "dangerously dependent on Southern African sources for critical minerals" with the Washington Star echoing that "American industry can be brought to a standstill by the lack of materials such as those we get from Zaïre, Zimbabwe and South Africa."

INDISPENSABLE

Indeed, Southern African minerals are indispensable to modern industries. Congressman Santini noted that "without chromium or cobalt we cannot build an automobile, a computer, a cutting tool or other high technology equipment. We could not run a train or process food under present laws and we could not build an oil refinery or power station."

Manganese is essential to production of steel, transport and construction equipment and heavy machinery. Copper is a vital component in electronics and communications technology.

Chromium is a particularly invaluable resource. It is an irreplaceable ingredient in stainless steel and high-temperature resistant alloys. It is used in oil exploration and production, in the production of automobiles, aircraft, jet engines, tanks, chemical equipment and nuclear reactors.

A West German Foreign Office study in 1978 cautioned that "a one-third fall in the supply of chrome to West Germany could cut a quarter of German industrial production in a few weeks, at the cost of 7 million jobs."

While today, South Africa and Zimbabwe produce about 40% of the world's chrome, they hold 95% of its reserves.

Because of these remarkable figures, traders are expecting an intensify-

ing competition, particularly between the US and the USSR, but also between Western countries to stockpile large amounts of these strategic minerals as insurance in time of war or political upheavals. This competition for buying should push up prices which have been lagging due to the world recession, good news for hard-pressed developing states in the region.

Last month, Japan bought almost 15 000 tonnes of aluminium for stockpiling. A similar plan by West Germany has collapsed, while France has offered 10-year bonds for strategic mineral purchases.

But others see new dangers for the sovereignty of the nations of the region. The US National Strategy Information Centre, a right-wing private organization, produces the "Bulletin from the Resource War" which alleges that the Soviet Union is working to effect a cut-off of strategic minerals from Southern Africa to the US "for which there are no adequate substitutes and no other adequate sources of supply."

COTTON TO BE MAJOR EXPORT CROP

Salisbury THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 6 Mar 81 p 12

[Text]

WITH an estimated revenue from cotton exports pegged at \$60,2 million in 1981, the crop will certainly figure prominently among the country's major foreign currency earners.

Although the total value of the crop is slightly less than last year, due mainly to heavy rains which have reduced the yield, cotton appears to have a bright future.

- It has good value per tonne.
- It is a labour-intensive crop as well as being a favourite peasant cash crop.
- Zimbabwe's cotton is of a high quality and compares favourably with crops from other world producers.
- There will probably be a steady increase in demand over the next few years and the possibility of major new markets opening up.

Cotton lint (Zimbabwe does not export seed cotton because of bulk considerations) is third on the list of total foreign currency earnings, and fourth on the value per tonne list for 1981.

As well as being a very easy and profitable commodity to export, cotton is also a favourite

peasant crop. About 61 600 peasants grow cotton in varying quantities and, because fertiliser and pesticides are now easily obtainable, some of their yields and quality compare favourably with that of cotton grown by the country's 800 commercial growers.

HAND PICKED

Because Zimbabwe's commercial crop is still hand picked it is labour intensive, which is in keeping with the Government's stated objectives. Hand picking also ensures that the quality of the crop is better, and Zimbabwe's cotton is said to compare favourably with the American crop.

Although cotton exports have been affected by the recession, their long-term prospects are quite good. There should be a steady increase in world-wide demand as oil-based synthetic fabrics become more expensive.

New markets are developing in Asia, and the Chinese, in particular, are said to be showing a greater interest in western-type clothing. If this potential market develops, there could be a tremendous demand for Zimbabwe's cotton.

BRIEFS

NEW ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVES--The National Railways of Zimbabwe have completed negotiations for the purchase of mainline electric locomotives worth about \$30 million with the 50 Cycle Group, an international consortium comprising six large European companies. According to the South African magazine, Engineering Week, 30 locomotives worth about \$1 000 000 apiece will be supplied to Zimbabwe between the end of 1982 and April 1983. They will be assembled from components made by members of the 50 Cycle Group and completed in Bulawayo. The locomotives, which are of the type South African Railways is switching to, incorporate a 25kv ac system with 2 600 kilowatts of power, a gross tonnage of 114 tonnes and have a maximum speed of 110 kilometres an hour. A unique feature of the design is that the traction motors will be fed by an oil-immersed-controlled rectifier, which is a specialty of the Swiss-based leader of the consortium, Brown-Boveri. Brown-Boveri, a multinational traction company, recently opened offices in Salisbury. Other members of the 50 Cycle Group are ACEC of Belgium, AEG and Siemens of West Germany, and two French companies, MTE and Alsthon Atlantique. [Text] [Salisbury THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 6 Mar 81 p 1]

PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTION--Products to the value of 2,2 million dollars were exported by CAPS during the current 1980/81 financial year. The pharmaceutical range consisting mainly of antibiotics, analgesics, vitamin preparations, anti-malarials, cough and cold remedies and antidiarrhoeals was well supported by the French Lact, Mr. Strong and Alginate pool clear ranges from the Consumer Products Division. Veterinary remedies including intestinal antiseptics, cattle dips and antibiotics were also much in demand. CAPS is a Zimbabwean company specialising in the manufacture and distribution of various pharmaceutical dosage forms. Awareness of its responsibility towards government and the public has led it to develop worldwide import and export networks to satisfy the demands of local and international markets. The export network covers well established markets such as Botswana, Zambia, Malawi, Zaire and Mozambique where company interests are being consolidated. Planned expansion to Uganda, Nigeria, Sudan and Kenya is envisaged in the near future, and a high level export sales manager is being appointed specifically to service North African markets. [Text] [Salisbury THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 6 Mar 81 p 9]

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